Let's Go Play!
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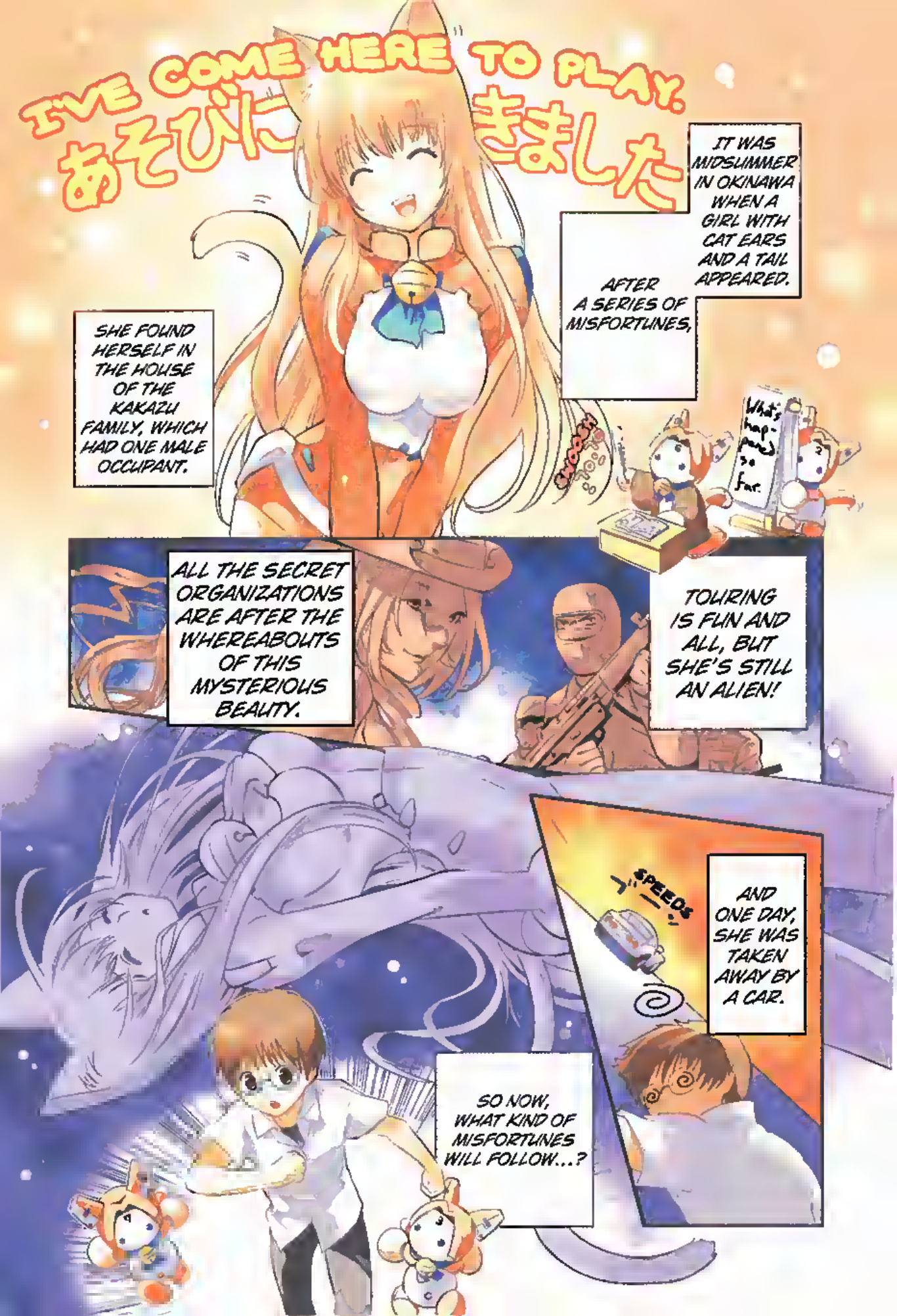
A Digital Manga Guild Publication


I'VE COME HERE TO PLAY.
あそびにきました
IT WAS MIDSUMMER IN OKINAWA WHEN A GIRL WITH CAT EARS AND A TAIL APPEARED.
AFTER A SERIES OF MISFORTUNES,
SHE FOUND HERSELF IN THE HOUSE OF THE KAKAZU FAMILY, WHICH HAD ONE MALE OCCUPANT.
CHOOSH
What happened to her?
TOURING IS FUN AND ALL, BUT SHE'S STILL AN ALIEN!
ALL THE SECRET ORGANIZATIONS ARE AFTER THE WHEREABOUTS OF THIS MYSTERIOUS BEAUTY.
SPEEDS
AND ONE DAY, SHE WAS TAKEN AWAY BY A CAR.
SO NOW, WHAT KIND OF MISFORTUNES WILL FOLLOW...?

007 ACT UPON YOUR DECISIONS

I SAW SOMTHING THAT TIME ...
KINJO
THOUGH, I DON'T WANT TO BELIEVE MYSELF EITHER...

Let's Go Play! あそびにいくヨ! 2

888 HACHI HACHI HACHI

Written by Okina Kamino
Original character design by
Hoden Eizou

LET'S GO PLAY VOLUME 1

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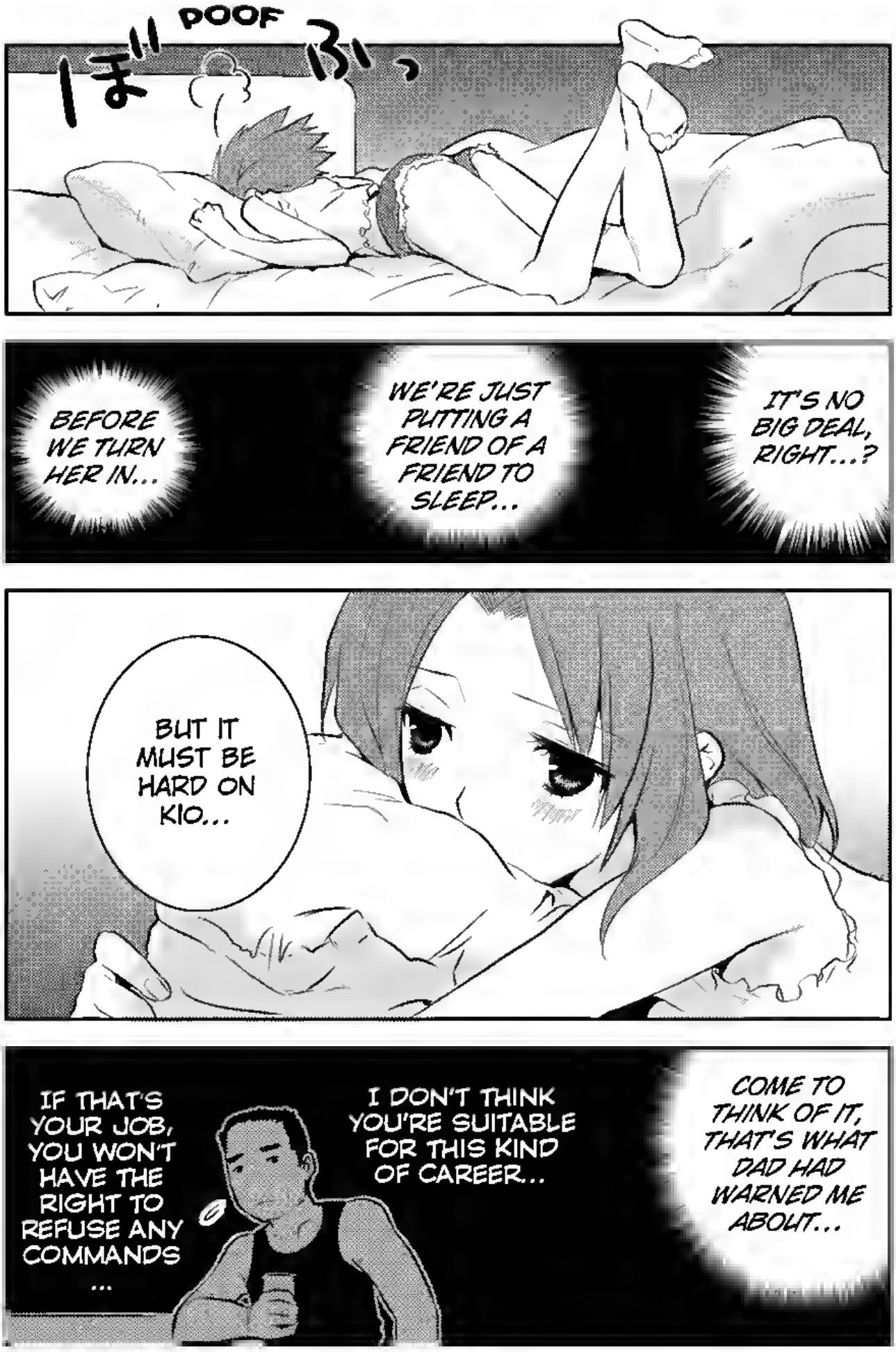

POOF
BEFORE WE TURN HER IN...
WE'RE JUST PUTTING A FRIEND OF A FRIEND TO SLEEP...
IT'S NO BIG DEAL, RIGHT...?
BUT IT MUST BE HARD ON KIO...
IF THAT'S YOUR JOB, YOU WON'T HAVE THE RIGHT TO REFUSE ANY COMMANDS ...
I DON'T THINK YOU'RE SUITABLE FOR THIS KIND OF CAREER...
COME TO THINK OF IT, THAT'S WHAT DAD HAD WARNED ME ABOUT...

KIO'S LOOKING FOR YOUUUU!
MANA-MIIII!
WHAT IS IT?
I'M PRETTY BUSY, SO MAKE IT QUICK.
TELL ME, WHERE DID YOU GUYS TAKE HER?
WHERE'S ERIS?

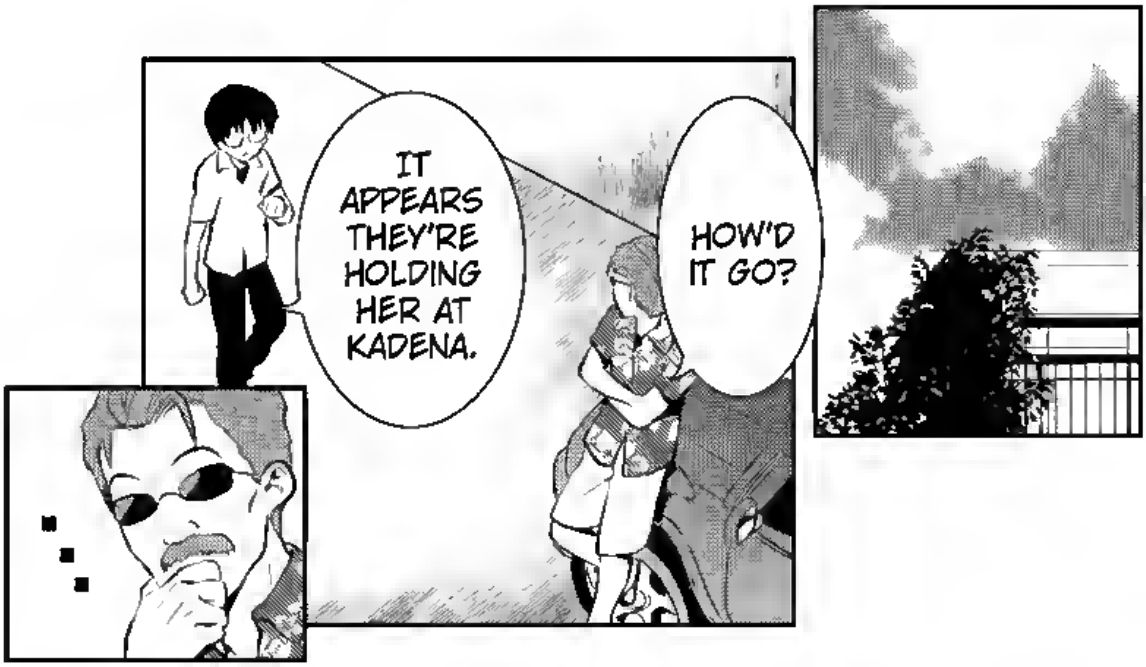
WE WERE SHOT WITH A TRANQUILIZER GUN COMING FROM A CORVETTE,
AND WHEN I WOKE UP TODAY ERIS WAS GONE.
WHY ARE YOU TELLING ME THIS?
BECAUSE YOU WERE THERE,
IN THAT CORVETTE.
N-NON-SENSE! WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?
I SAW IT,
YOUR WATCH.
WHO KNEW KIO COULD BE THIS ASSERTIVE...

I HAD NOTICED IT ONLY MOMENTARILY WITH THE GLANCE,
BUT I ALSO HEARD YOUR VOICE WHEN YOU GO OUT OF THE CAR.
YOU WERE MORE WORRIED ABOUT THE WATCH THAN YOU WERE ABOUT YOUR WOUNDS.
THE G-SHOCK WATCH THAT YOU SCRATCHED WHEN YOU FELL OFF YOUR BIKE EARLIER THIS YEAR.
I CAN STILL TELL IT'S YOU EVEN IF YOU WORE A DISGUISE
HOW LONG DO YOU THINK WE'VE KNOWN EACH OTHER?
...
HAA ...
YOU ...
HOW ...
AM I RIGHT?

WHY WOULD YOU DO SUCH A THING?
IT'S... FOR MY FUTURE.
I'M SURE I'VE TOLD YOU THAT MY DAD WORKS IN THE AMERICAN MILITARY BASE...
BUT THE TRUTH IS, HE WORKS IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE CIA.
ONCE HE'S ASSIGNED A MISSION, HE HAS TO CARRY OUT HIS INVESTIGATIONS...
AND... I WANT TO WORK FOR THE CIA SOMEDAY, TOO...
SO I FIGURED, THIS WAS A CHANCE FOR ME TO PROVE MYSELF...
THAT'S WHY YOU AMBUSHED US AND TOOK ERIS...?
...
THAT'S TERRIBLE MANAMI-CHAN...
...

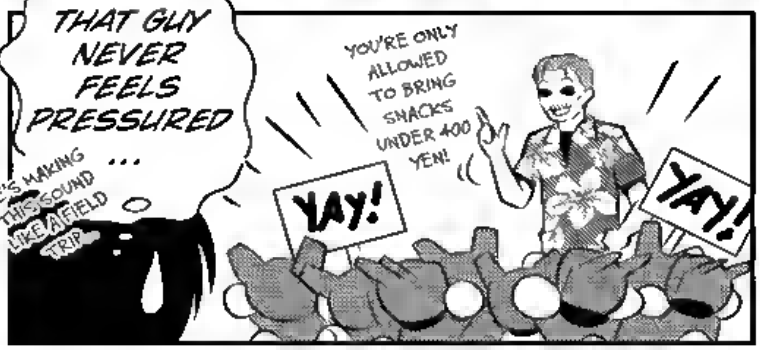
SO, WHERE DID YOU GUYS TAKE ERIS?
THE KADENA AIR BASE ...
STORAGE F, TO BE EXACT.
SINCE I'M NOT OFFICIALLY A PART OF THE ORGANIZA-TION, I CAN'T GET TOO INVOLVED.
THE REST IS UP TO JACK...
SHE'S THE WOMAN THAT WAS WITH ME.
SHE IS THIS JACK PERSON? SO JACK'S NOT A GUY?
JACK?
HUH?
WHAT WERE YOU THINKING?

AH HA HA
SO, JACK'S A WOMAN AFTER ALL...
I SEE... I'M GLAD I THOUGHT WRONG.


HOW'D IT GO?
IT APPEARS THEY'RE HOLDING HER AT KADENA.

L-LEAVE IT TO ME.
SO, WHAT DO WE DO NOW?
I'D NEVER DO THAT TO HER!
OF COURSE NOT!!
I THOUGHT THE TOUGH MANAMI-CHAN WOULDN'T SAY ANYTHING...
DID YOU BEAT IT OUT OF HER OR WHAT?
Please
HM?
Please take us with you!
take us!
DO YOU GUYS WANNA TAG ALONG?
THOUGH IT'S MOSTLY CHICKEN SCRATCH...
THESE WEIRD LITTLE GUYS CAN REALLY COMMUNICATE THROUGH THOSE SIGNS...

ポン
PAT
2
BUT DON'T GOOF AROUND IN THE CAR, OKAY?
ALRIGHT! I GET IT. I'LL BRING YOU GUYS TO FIND YOUR OWNER,

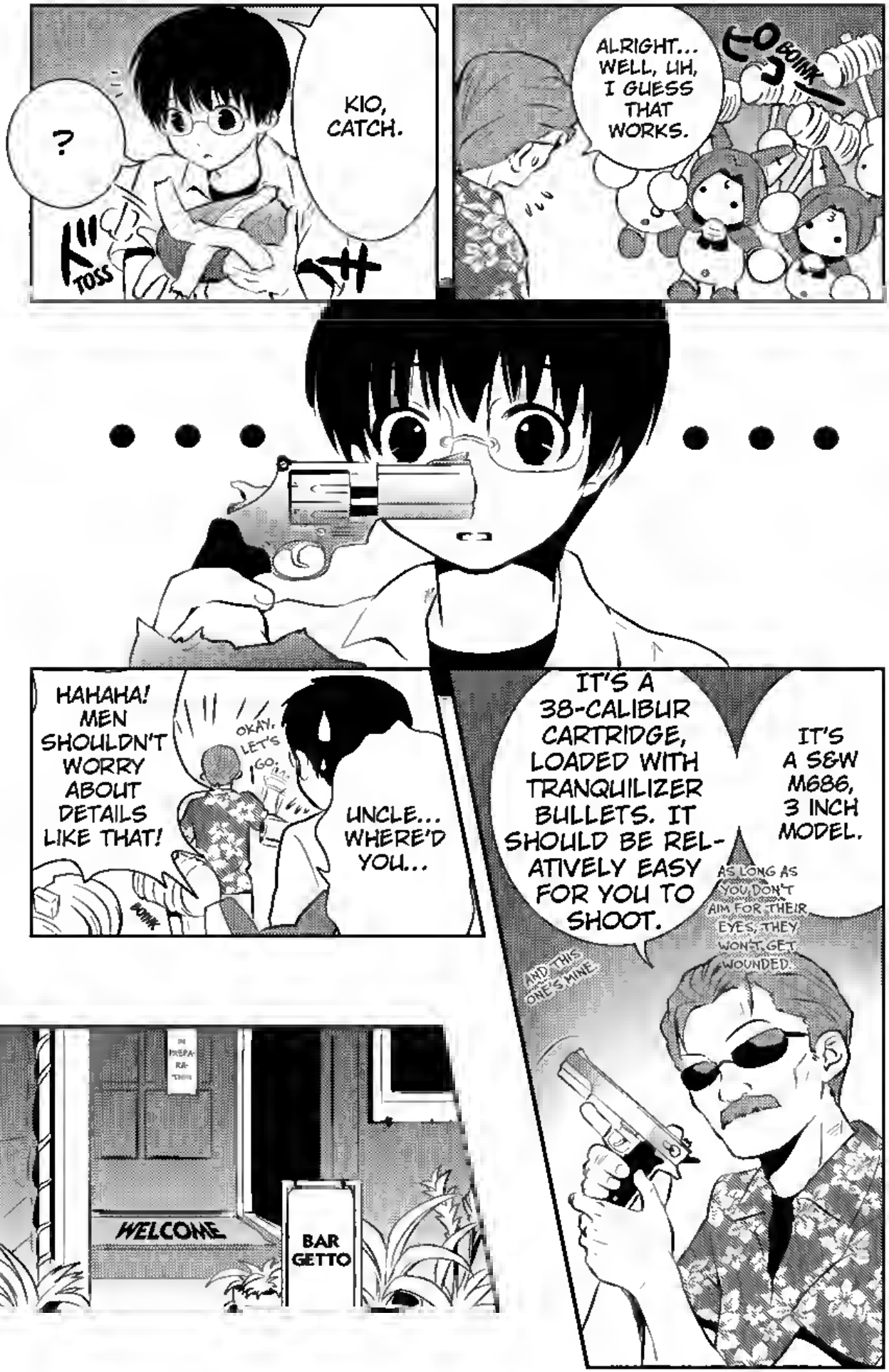

THAT GUY NEVER FEELS PRESSURED ...
HE'S MAKING THIS SOUND LIKE A FIELD TRIP
YOU'RE ONLY ALLOWED TO BRING SNACKS UNDER 400 YEN!
YAY!
YAY!

AOI FUTABA CODE NAME MOMJI THE AFORE MENTIONED INDIVIDUAL IS PENALIZED WITH HOUSE ARREST.
DUE TO PERSONAL REASONS, YOU NEGLECTED YOUR TASK WHICH RESULTED IN MISSION FAILURE.
CONSEQUENTLY, UNTIL THE OFFICIAL PENALTY IS FINALIZED YOU ARE REQUIRED TO REMAIN ON THE PREMISES OF YOUR PERSONAL RESIDENCE.
OR RATHER, THEY'RE MORE LENIENT THAN USUAL.
AS EXPECTED...

BEEP
HELLO, FUTABA SPEAKING.
RRIING
O-OH... K-KAKAZU-KUN?
VROOm
OH, HI! FUTABA...?
W-WHAT'S UP...?
YOU SEE, ABOUT OUR PLANS TO GO SHOPPING TOMORROW...
UNFORTU-NATELY, I WON'T BE ABLE TO MAKE IT.

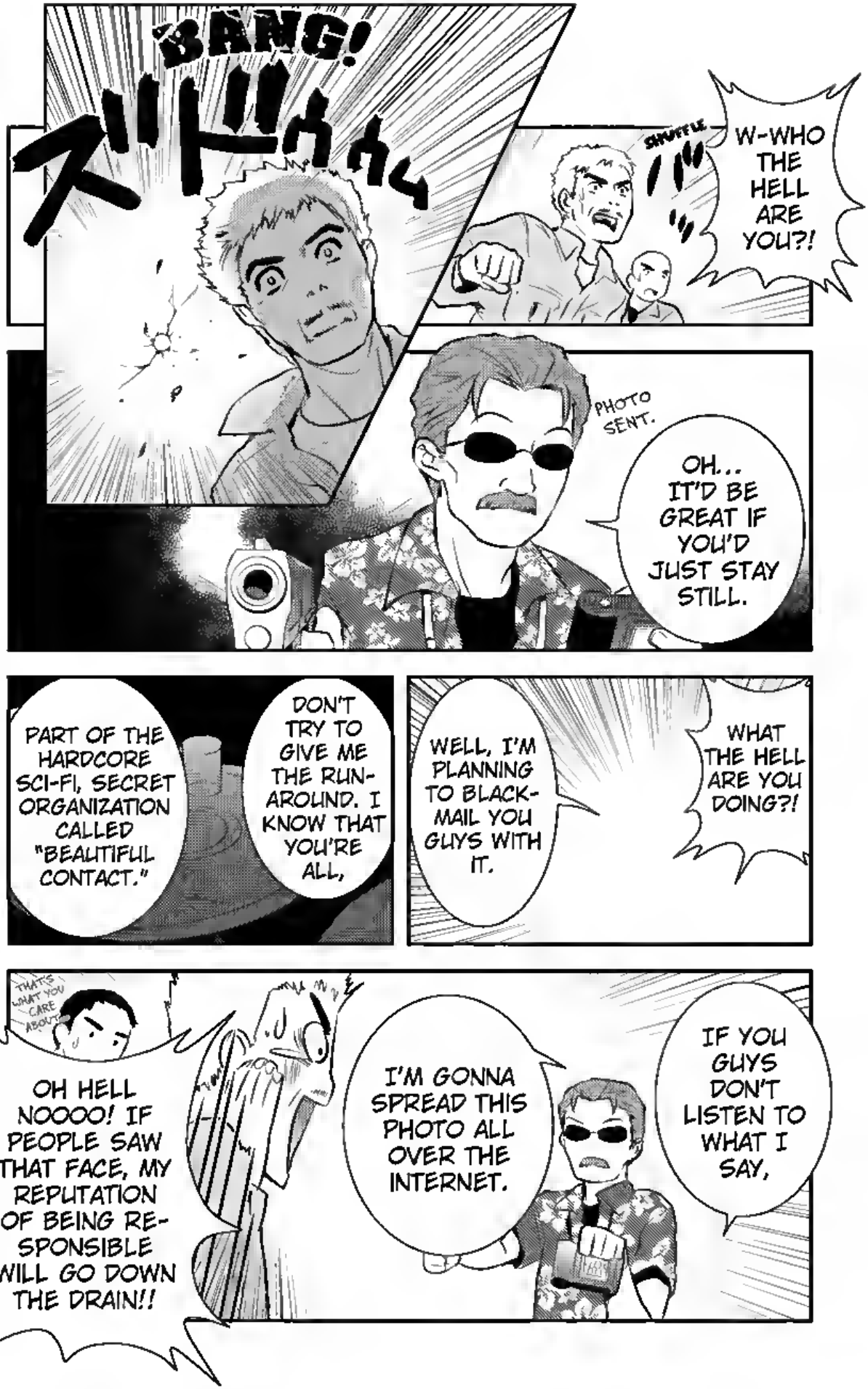
THERE'S SOMETHING THAT I NEED TO DO.
I MIGHT BE AWAY FOR AWHILE.
I'M SORRY ABOUT THIS...
K-KAKAZU-KUN... WHAT DO YOU—
I'LL TELL YOU ABOUT IT WHEN I GET BACK.
BEEP
WELL THEN, SEE YOU...

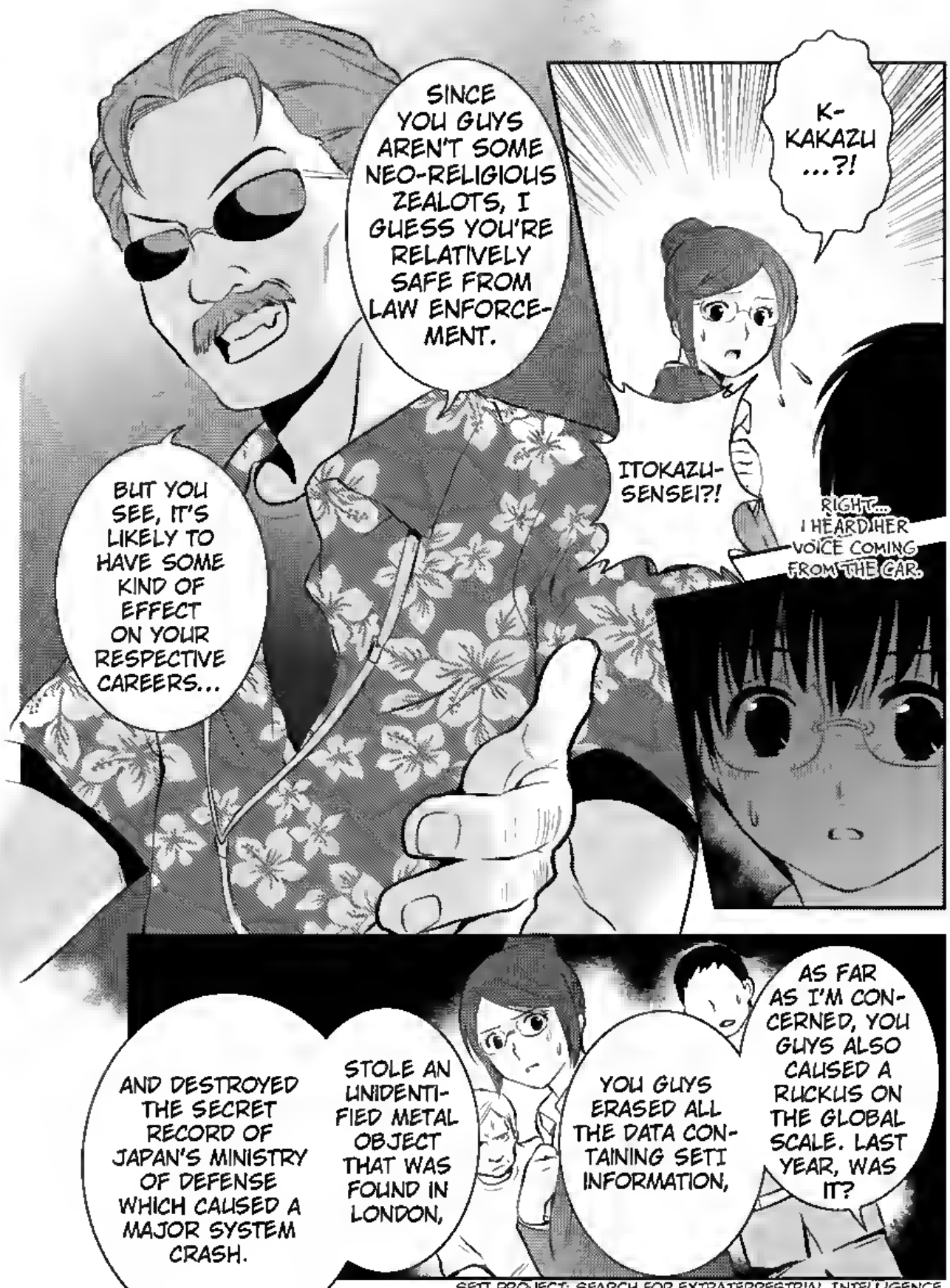
WOW! SO YOU'VE GOT MORE THAN ONE GIRLFRIEND, MY DEAR NEPHEW?
CUT IT OUT, UNCLE.
SHUT
HMM...
ANYWAY, WE SHOULD PROBABLY LOCATE SOME WEAPONS... AND ACCOMPLICES.
YOU GOT ANYTHING WE CAN USE AS A WEAPON?
NO, THIS WAS SO SUDDEN. I DON'T—
WELL, THAT IS TRUE.
PLUS, IT'S NOT LIKE I PLAY ANY SPORTS EITHER..
WHAT ABOUT THE LITTLE GUYS? WHAT'VE YOU GOT?
ピコピコハンマー!
PICO PICO HAMMER!


KIO, CATCH.
?
TOSS
ALRIGHT... WELL, UH, I GUESS THAT WORKS.
BOINK
HAHAHA! MEN SHOULDN'T WORRY ABOUT DETAILS LIKE THAT!
OKAY, LET'S GO...
BOINK
UNCLE... WHERE'D YOU...
IT'S A 38-CALIBUR CARTRIDGE, LOADED WITH TRANQUILIZER BULLETS. IT SHOULD BE RELATIVELY EASY FOR YOU TO SHOOT.
IT'S A S&W M686, 3 INCH MODEL.
AS LONG AS YOU DON'T AIM FOR THEIR EYES, THEY WON'T GET WOUNDED.
AND THIS ONE'S MINE.
IN PREPARATION
WELCOME
BAR GETTO

DISAPPOINTMENT
すうううん
WELL, ACCORDING TO THE COMMENTS FROM OUR SUPPORT-ERS...
TYPE TYPE
SO, HOW'S THE MISSION REPORT LOOK ...?
AHHHHHH, SHUT UP! I DON'T WANNA HEAR IT!!
THE GENERAL CONSENSUS REGARDING OUR PERFOR-MANCE IS 48% "YOU GUYS SUCK" AND 24% "JUST GO DIE"...
KNOCK
KNOCK
KNOCK
...?
YOU HAVE NO IDEA HOW SCARY IT WAS, ESPECIALLY WITH THOSE WEIRDASS PEOPLE WHO CAME OUT OF NOWHERE.
WELL, IF THEY'RE SO GREAT, THEN WHY DON'T THEY GO DO IT?!

BAM!
AH! OOPS, MY BAD!
HELLO FOLKS, PLEASE PARDON OUR INTRUSION,
BUT NOBODY MOVE! YOU ARE "BEAUTIFUL CONTACT", RIGHT?
110
WHAT THE ...?!
ALRIGHT ...
POSED ON REFLEX
SAY CHEESE!
SNAP


BANG!
スパーン
SHUFFLE
W-WHO THE HELL ARE YOU?!
PHOTO SENT.
OH... IT'D BE GREAT IF YOU'D JUST STAY STILL.
PART OF THE HARDCORE SCI-FI, SECRET ORGANIZATION CALLED "BEAUTIFUL CONTACT."
DON'T TRY TO GIVE ME THE RUN-AROUND. I KNOW THAT YOU'RE ALL,
WELL, I'M PLANNING TO BLACK-MAIL YOU GUYS WITH IT.
WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU DOING?!
THAT'S WHAT YOU CARE ABOUT?
OH HELL NOOOO! IF PEOPLE SAW THAT FACE, MY REPUTATION OF BEING RE-SPONSIBLE WILL GO DOWN THE DRAIN!!
I'M GONNA SPREAD THIS PHOTO ALL OVER THE INTERNET.
IF YOU GUYS DON'T LISTEN TO WHAT I SAY,


K-KAKAZU ...?!
ITOKAZU-SENSEI?!
RIGHT... I HEARD HER VOICE COMING FROM THE CAR.
SINCE YOU GUYS AREN'T SOME NEO-RELIGIOUS ZEALOTS, I GUESS YOU'RE RELATIVELY SAFE FROM LAW ENFORCE-MENT.
BUT YOU SEE, IT'S LIKELY TO HAVE SOME KIND OF EFFECT ON YOUR RESPECTIVE CAREERS...
AS FAR AS I'M CON-CERNED, YOU GUYS ALSO CAUSED A RUCKUS ON THE GLOBAL SCALE. LAST YEAR, WAS IT?
YOU GUYS ERASED ALL THE DATA CON-TAINING SETI INFORMATION,
STOLE AN UNIDENTI-FIED METAL OBJECT THAT WAS FOUND IN LONDON,
AND DESTROYED THE SECRET RECORD OF JAPAN'S MINISTRY OF DEFENSE WHICH CAUSED A MAJOR SYSTEM CRASH.

SETI PROJECT: SEARCH FOR EXTRATERRESTRIAL INTELLIGENCE.

TO ENSURE THAT THEY'D HAVE THE FIRST CONTACT WITH THE ALIEN OF THEIR DREAMS.
WELL, IT SEEMS LIKE THEY'D DO ANY KIND OF RIDICULOUS THING...
WOW... THEY DID THAT MUCH?
DAMN YOU!
HOW CAN YOU SAY SOMETHING LIKE THAT!!
W-WE JUST WANT TO INSURE THAT HUMANS EVOLVE PROPERLY ...
...
BUT IF THE 'ALIEN' DOES NOT FIT THEIR CRITERIA OR EXPECTATIONS, THEY'D GO AND TRY TO SABOTAGE EVERYTHING.
MAKE UP FOR THE THINGS THAT YOU'VE DONE TO MY NEPHEW, OF COURSE.
CLICK
W-WHAT DO YOU WANT US TO DO?!
ESPECIALLY IN A SITUATION LIKE THIS.
DO YOU THINK THAT YOU CAN JUST FORCE YOUR IDEALS ON OTHER PEOPLE?

I'M SURE MR. FOREIGNER OVER THERE CAN DO THAT, RIGHT?
I WANT YOU TO TAKE US INTO THE KADENA AIR BASE.

FLOP

...

HE PROBABLY HATES ME NOW...

THAT'S TERRIBLE, MANAMI-CHAN...

SHE IS THIS JACK PERSON?
SO JACK'S NOT A GUY?
I DON'T THINK I'VE EVER SEEN THE GIRL LOOK AT ME WITH SUCH UNPLEASANT ING DISPLEASURE.
AND TO THINK HE STILL REMEMBERS CLEARLY, WHAT HAPPENED THAT ONE DAY WITH MY WATCH...
EVEN THOUGH IT HAD NOTHING TO DO WITH HIM...
HAVE I BEEN WRONG THIS WHOLE TIME...?

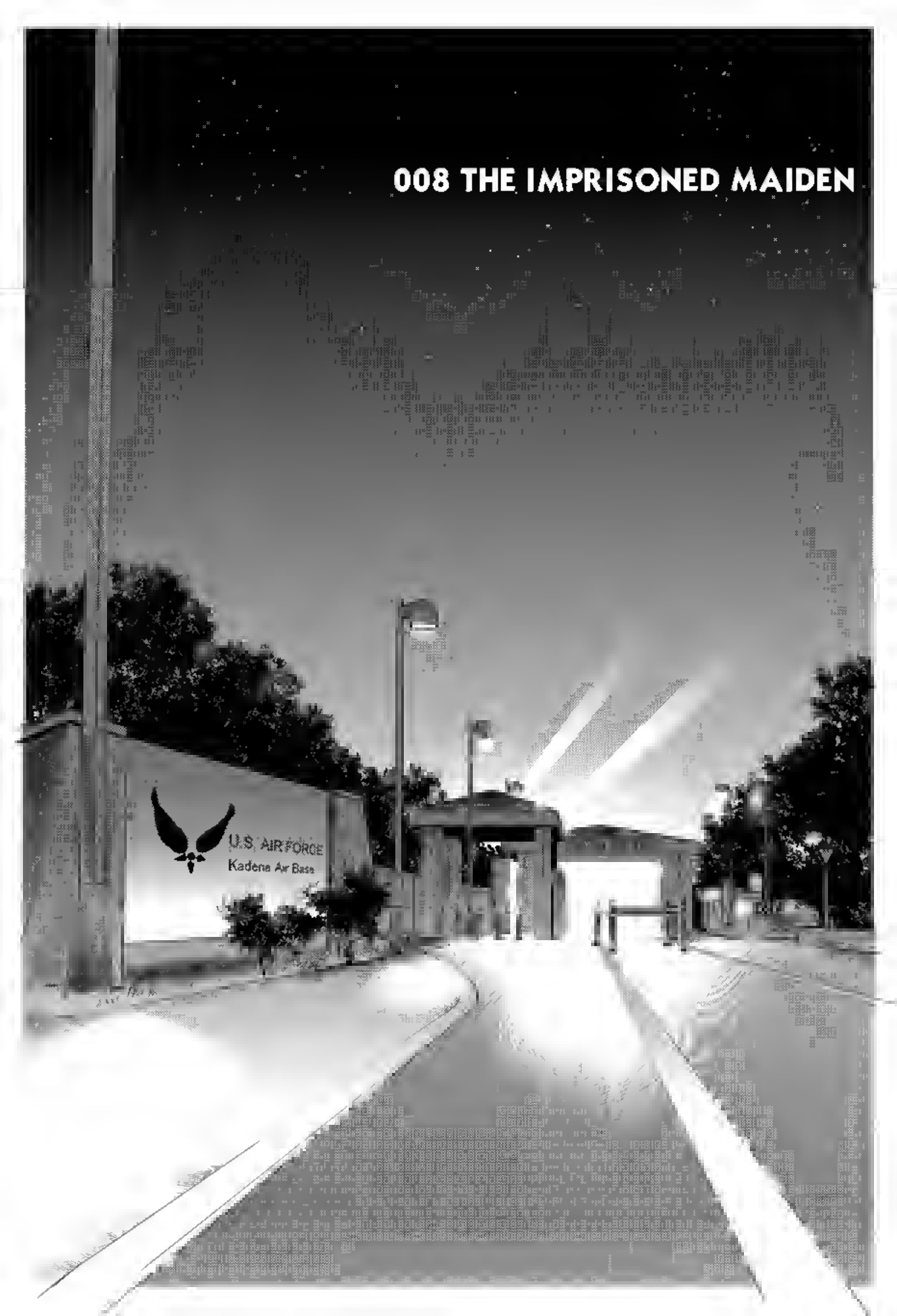
DID DAD COME BACK HOME?
UGH...
DING DONG
ピンポーン!
UGH... HOW AM I GONNA FACE HIM TOMOR-ROW...?!
MANA-MIII!! MANA-MIII!!
YOU SURE HAVE A LOT OF GUESTS TODAY!
I WONDER WHO IT IS...?
MAYBE KIO CAME BACK...
とんたんたん
THUMP THUMP THUMP

HELLO, IT'S NICE TO MEET YOU.
MY NAME'S AOI FUTABA.

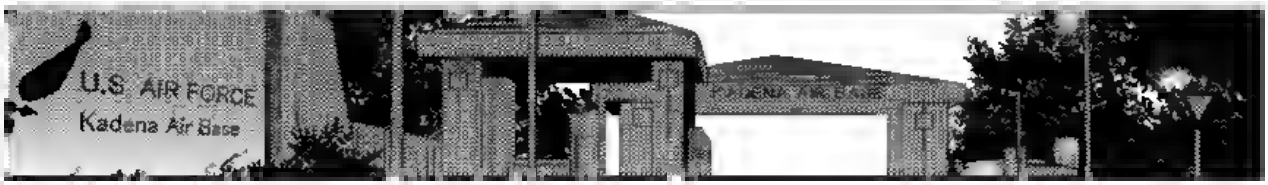
Let's Go Play!

Let's Go Play!

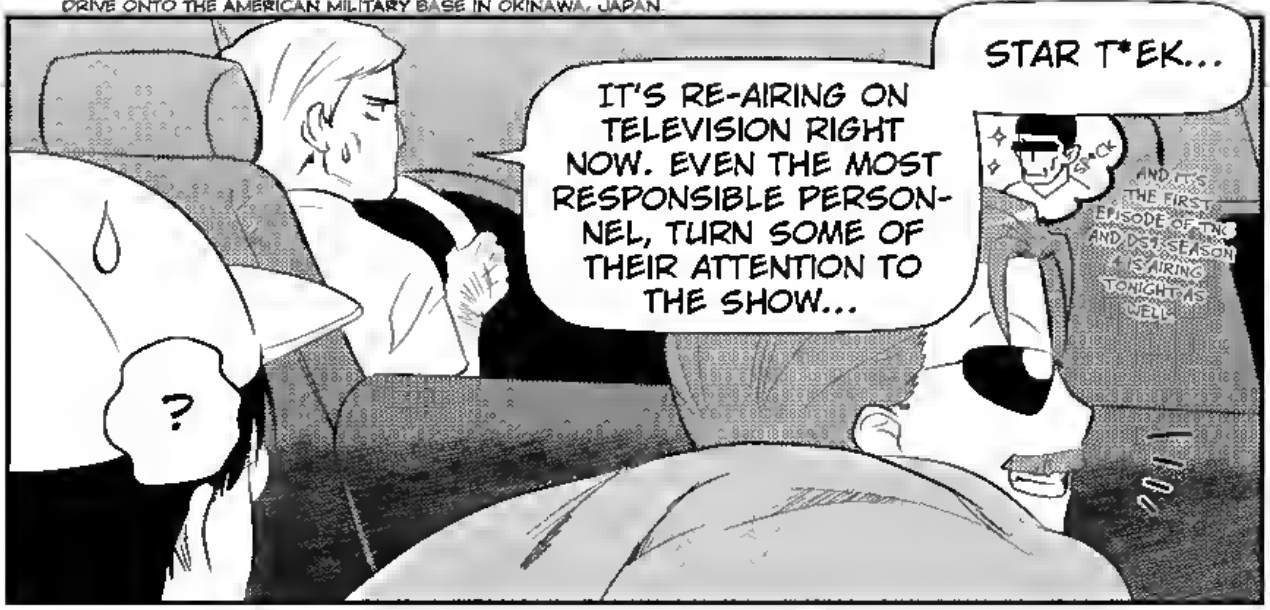
ゴオHUMMMMM
オオオ
EXCUSE ME?
UM...
WHERE AM I?
HMM...


008 THE IMPRISONED MAIDEN
U.S. AIR FORCE
Kadena Air Base

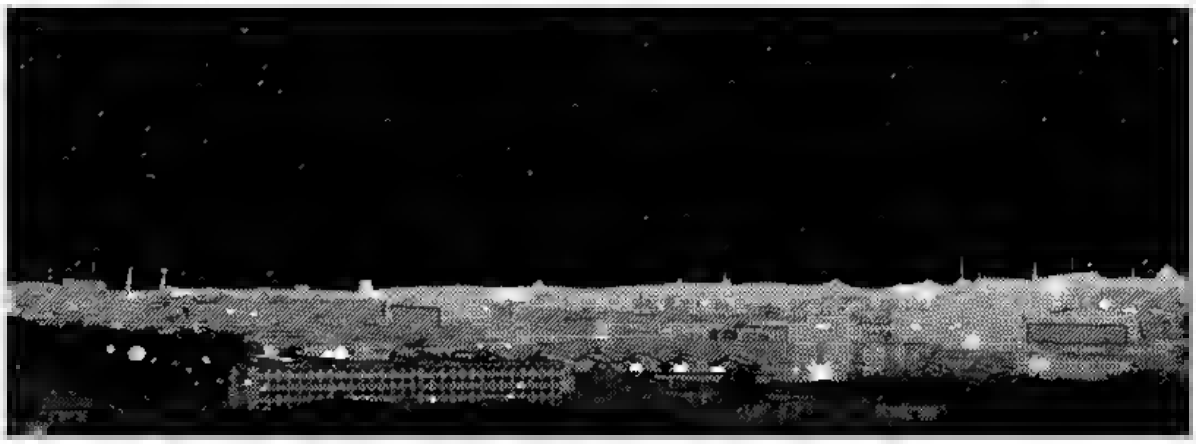
YOU LOOK UNCOMFORT ABLE
?
I DON'T MEAN TO BE RUDE, BUT I CAN'T HELP YOU.
HMPH
HOLD ON A MINUTE. LET ME SWITCH MY TRANSLATOR'S LANGUAGE INPUT.
CLING CLONG
DID YOU HAVE QUES-TIONS?
NOT MANY, I'M JUST A LITTLE BORED ...
SO, WHAT'S GONNA HAPPEN TO ME?



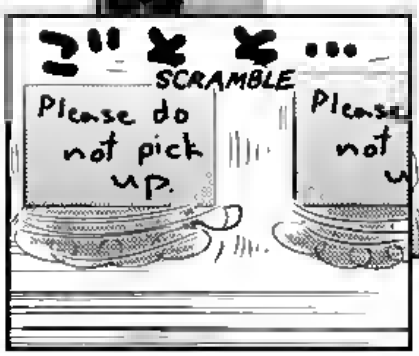
*ONLY THE PERSONNEL WITH A LICENSE PLATE THAT STARTS WITH A Y, CAN DRIVE ONTO THE AMERICAN MILITARY BASE IN OKINAWA, JAPAN.


?
IT'S RE-AIRING ON TELEVISION RIGHT NOW. EVEN THE MOST RESPONSIBLE PERSONNEL, TURN SOME OF THEIR ATTENTION TO THE SHOW...
STAR T*EK...
AND IT'S THE FIRST EPISODE OF TNG AND DS9 SEASON 4 IS AIRING TONIGHT AS WELL.

HERE'S THE PLAN.
FIRST, WE GET IN THERE AND CREATE A HUGE COMMOTION.
THEY CALL THIS THE DIVERSIONARY TACTIC.
DURING THAT, OUR DETACHMENT FORCE WILL SEIZE THE CHANCE TO DISABLE ALL THE POWER SOURCES BESIDES THE ONE FOR THE HOSPITAL.



HUMMMMM
DETACHMENT FORCE
Please do not pick up.
Plea not up


SCRAMBLE
Please do not pick up.
Please not

EMERGE
ポコ
EMERGE
ポコ
CLANG
CLANG
CLINK
CLINK
MARCH...

AL-RIGHT, WE'RE READY.
THAT'S IT...
KII DROPS
OKAY...
WELL KIO, LET'S GET THIS OVER WITH.
WHAT ARE YOU GUYS PLANNING TO DO NOW...?

THE YOUNG PRINCE... AND THE WISE OLD MAN, ME.
OF COURSE WE'RE GONNA GO SAVE THE IMPRISONED MAIDEN.
THERE'S NO REASON TO, ITOKAZU-SENSEI.
UNFORTU-NATELY, YOU'RE GOING TO HAVE TO WALK BACK.
IF SOMETHING BAD HAPPENS, JUST RUN IN THE OPPOSITE DIRECTION AND YOU SHOULD BE FINE.
...
WELL... SEE YOU LATER, SENSEI.
YOU'RE... NOT GOING TO KILL US?
...

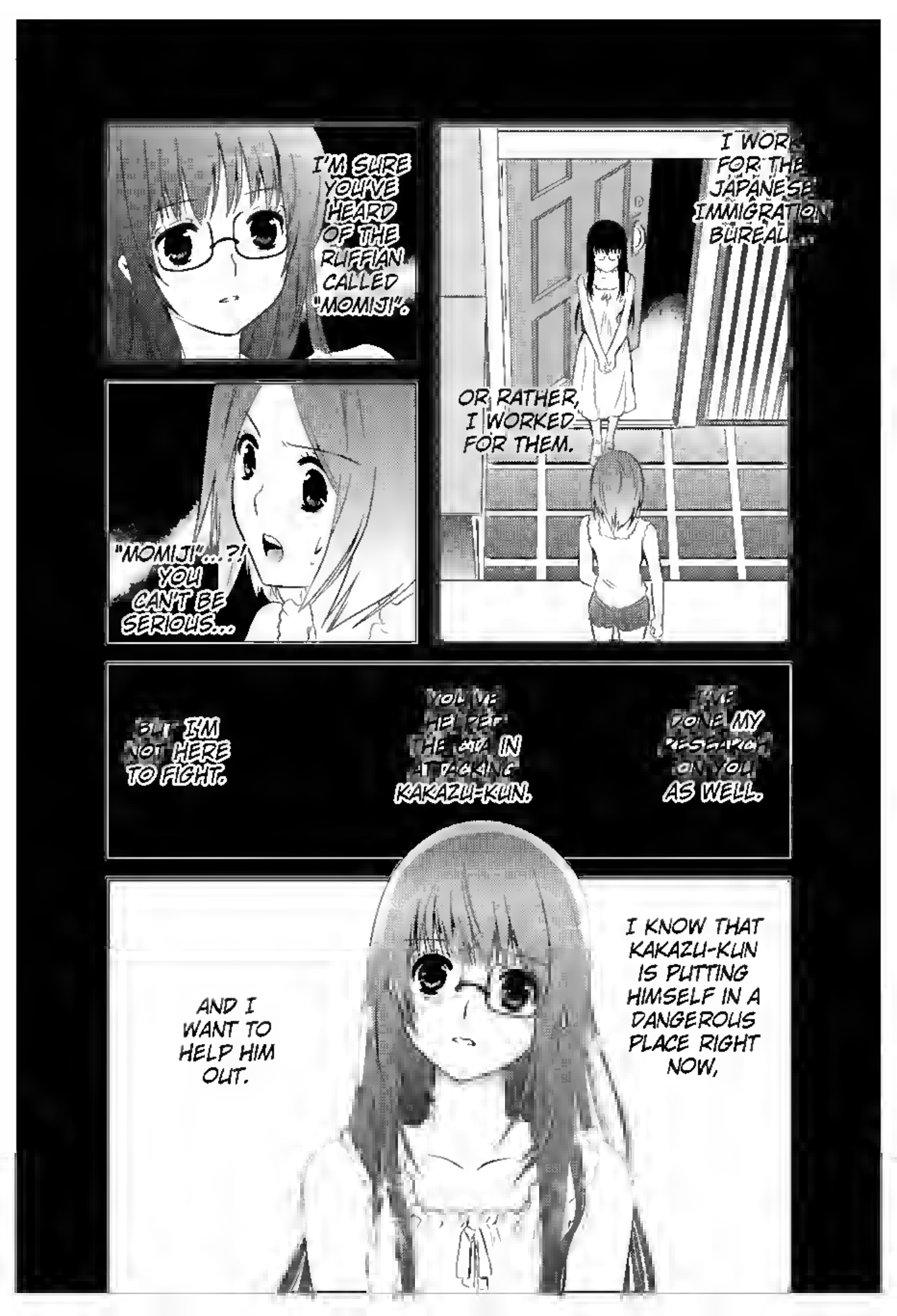
WE WANT YOU DEAD.
BIG COUNTRIES ALWAYS HAVE END-LESS TROUBLES.
YOUR EXISTENCE ALONE IS A THREAT TO THE WEL-FARE OF AMERICA,
AND I CAN'T LET THAT CONTINUE.
PREFER US KILLING YOU, OVER THEM BREAKING THEIR ALLIANCE WITH OUR GOVERN-MENT...
BUT WHAT I FIND MOST PECULIAR, IS THAT YOUR PEOPLE ...
NOT NECES-SARILY. IT MAKES A LOT OF THINGS EASIER WHEN YOU HAVE A CENTRALIZED ORDER.

IT'S NOT MY JOB TO ANSWER YOUR QUESTION.
YOU MEAN WE'VE ESTABLISHED ONE?
BY THE WAY,
YOU REEK OF SMELLY DOG.
I SUGGEST THAT YOU END THIS, NOW. ACCORDING TO THE GALACTIC REGULATION, ANY COMMUNICATION OR INTERACTION WITH THE PEOPLE OF THE DOG PLANET IS CONSIDERED AN ILLEGAL ACT OF SECRET COMMERCE.
I KNEW IT...
I FIGURED YOU'D HAVE KNOWN BETTER.

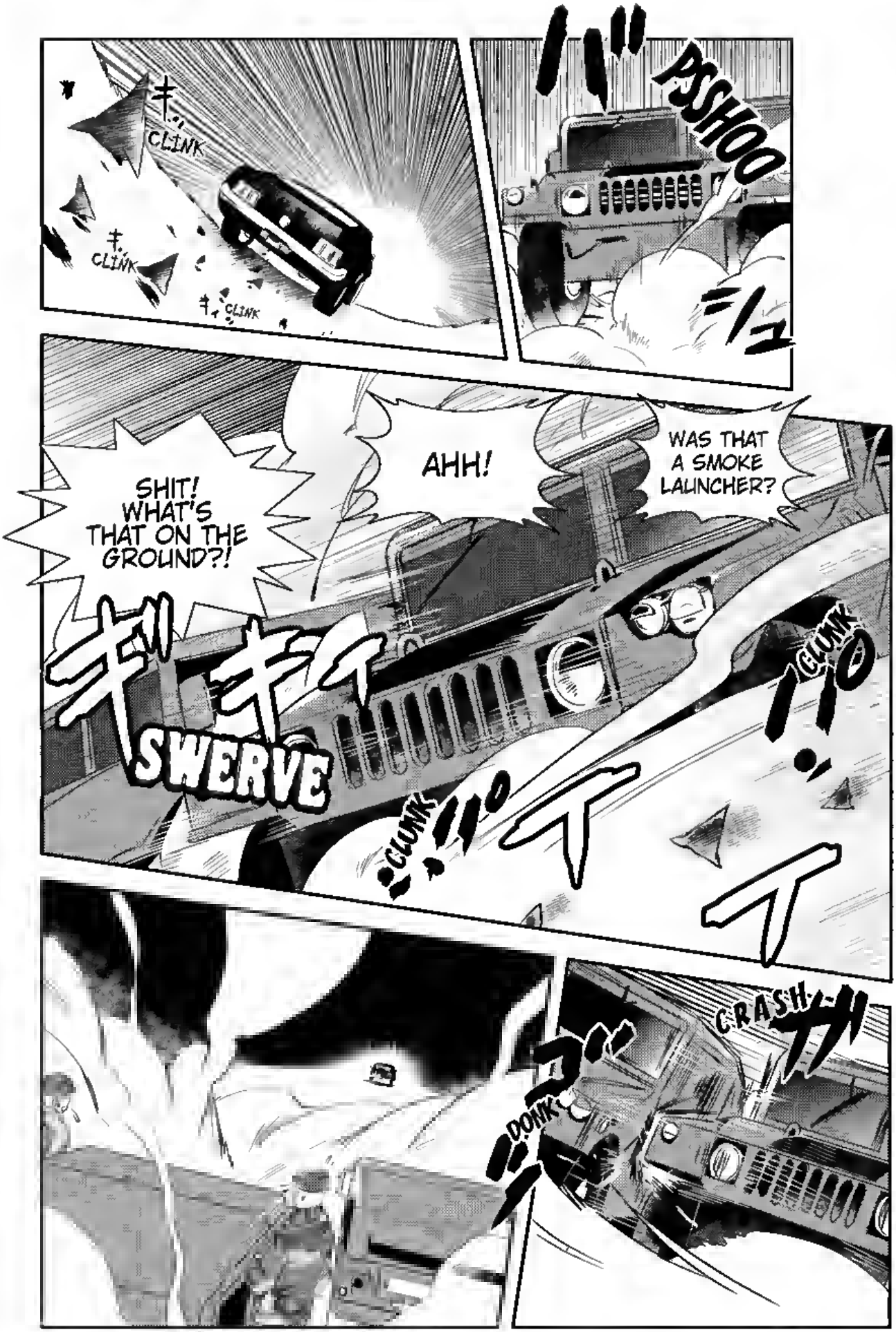
THE MOMENT I SAW YOU.
I KNEW I SHOULD HAVE GOTTEN RID OF YOU...
BOOM
?!
LOOK AT THOSE FIRE-WORKS!!
GASOLINE BASED! NO WONDER IT'S SO GRAND!
HOW ARE YOU, THIS HONCHA'LANT?

KADENA AIR FORCE BASE FRONT
HEY, WAS THAT AN EXPLOSION?
H-H-H-HEY! LOOK OUT!!
ガシーン
CRASHHHH
AHHHHHHHH!!

CLUNK
CLUNK
CLUNK
TURN
SCREEEEECCCHHHH
キャキャ
THEY'RE COMING AFTER US! WHAT DO WE DO?!
DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT. THEY'RE JUST A BUNCH OF WEAK-LINGS.
WHY DID I AGREE TO THIS...?
SIGH
A-ALRIGHT, FINE...
FOCUS ON HELPING ME NAVI-GATE.


I'M SURE YOU'VE HEARD OF THE RUFFIAN CALLED "MOMIJI".
"MOMIJI"...?! YOU CAN'T BE SERIOUS...
I WORK FOR THE JAPANESE IMMIGRATION BUREAU...
OR RATHER, I WORKED FOR THEM.
BUT I'M NOT HERE TO FIGHT.
YOU'VE HELPED HE AND IN ATTACKING KAKAZU-KUN.
I'VE DONE MY RESEARCH ON YOU AS WELL.
AND I WANT TO HELP HIM OUT.
I KNOW THAT KAKAZU-KUN IS PUTTING HIMSELF IN A DANGEROUS PLACE RIGHT NOW,

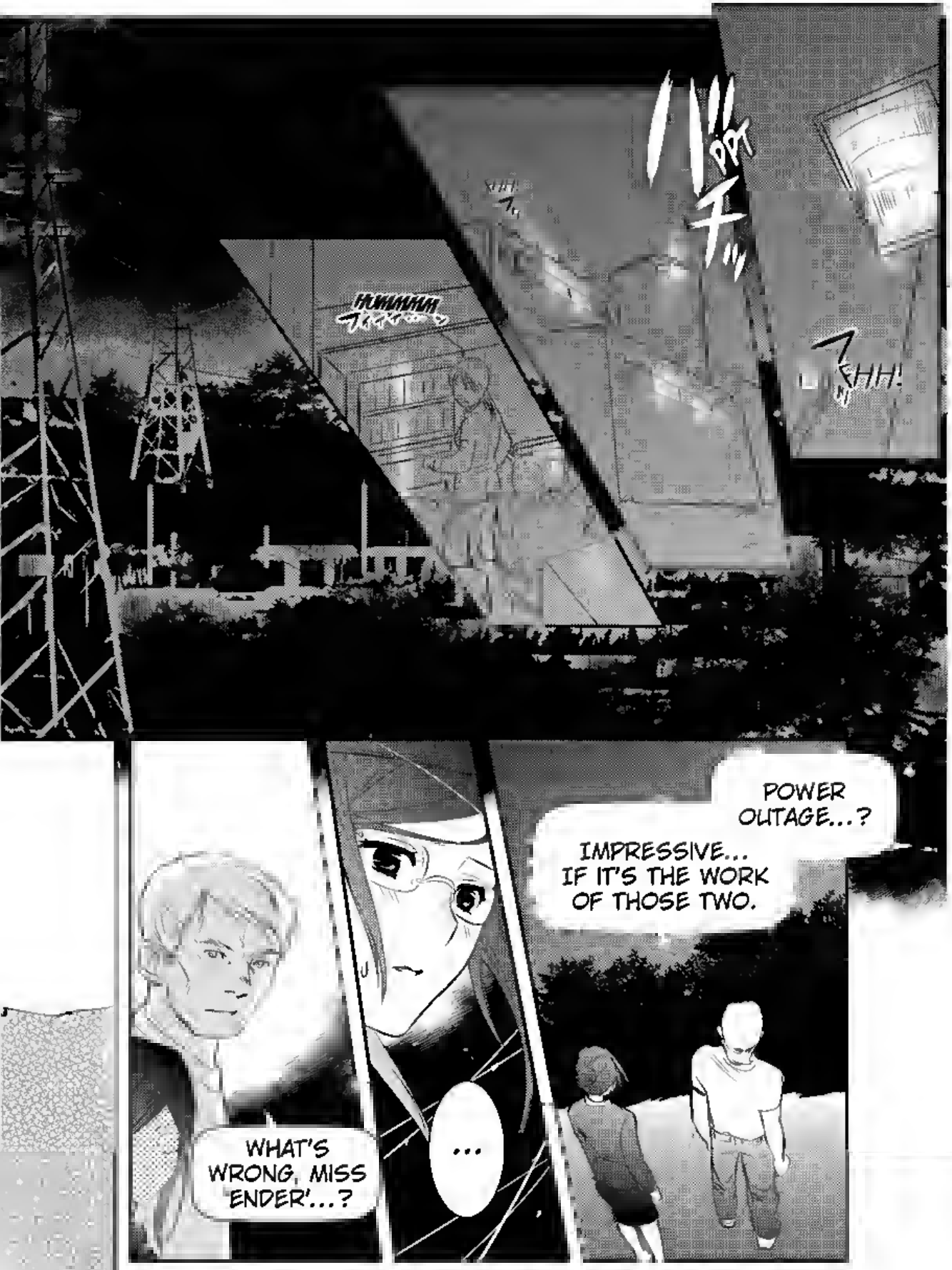
I REGRET THE THINGS I'VE DONE TO HIS FRIEND AND WOULD LIKE TO ATONE...
SO, WILL YOU HELP ME?
ZOOM
DARN IT, NOW I WILL NEVER BE ABLE TO WORK FOR THE CIA.
THAT'S NOTHING.
THE JAPANESE GOVERNMENT WILL BE AFTER ME FOR THE REST OF MY LIFE.
HERE THEY COME, IT'S YOUR MOVE.
OKAY, OKAY!
JEEZ! YOU'RE SO BOSSY!
CLICK


CLINK
CLINK
CLINK
PSSHOO
SHIT! WHAT'S THAT ON THE GROUND?!
AHH!
WAS THAT A SMOKE LAUNCHER?
SWERVE
CLUNK
CLUNK
CRASH
DONK

F
HUH?
KIO, GET OUT.
ALRIGHT, HERE COMES THE CLIMAX...
F
I'LL DISTRACT THEM AND YOU TAKE THE OPPOR-TUNITY TO SNEAK IN!!
IT'S THIS WISE OLD MAN'S TURN TO SHOW WHAT HE'S GOT.
G
B-BUT ...

BUT IT'S NEVER A BAD THING TO RISK YOUR LIFE SAVING ANOTHER'S.
GOOD LUCK! THIS MAY BE A LITTLE TOO INTENSE FOR A SUMMER VACATION STORY...
GOOD
A CO-WORKER OF MINE WILL PICK YOU UP WITH A HELICOPTER.
HUMMM
REMEMBER, MEET ME HERE AT MIDNIGHT!
VROOM
SEE YA LATER.

SEEMS LIKE THEY'RE REALLY JUST TAUNTING THOSE PEOPLE
BUT IT'S JUST A MATTER OF TIME UNTIL THEIR COVER'S BLOWN.
DONK
PFFP...
DOOONK
ピコーン
...
PEWWWW...
WELL... SEE YOU LATER, SENSEI.
HE SPOKE AS IF HE WAS JUST LEAVING SCHOOL...
HE [illegible] GENUINE AND GENTLE...
WILL HE STILL SEE ME AS A TEACHER...?
FHH!
!


POWER OUTAGE...?
IMPRESSIVE... IF IT'S THE WORK OF THOSE TWO.
...
WHAT'S WRONG, MISS ENDER'...?

ALL THE LIGHTS IN THE AIR BASE ARE OUT...!!
I'M JUST WONDERING...
IF I'M STANDING HERE AS A TEACHER, OR AS A MEMBER OF BEAUTIFUL CONTACT (BC)...
OR PERHAPS AS THE INDIVIDUAL, MAKI ITOKAZU...?
THAT'S REALLY... A DEEP QUESTION.

HOWEVER, PERSONALLY...
I CAN'T FAULT THOSE WHO FIGHT 'TILL THE END, FOR WHAT THEY BELIEVE IN.
AS AN AMERICAN SOLDIER, I OBVIOUSLY SEE THEM AS TERRORISTS WHO SHOULD MEET THEIR ENDS,
BUT AS A MEMBER OF BC, THEY'RE A COUPLE OF DELUSIONAL VICTIMS TRICKED BY THE ALIENS.
THAT'S 'CAUSE YOU'RE AN AMERICAN.
THAT'S ONE WAY TO LOOK AT IT.
ZOOOOOMMM
LOOK OUT!

BAAMMM
WAS THAT KINJŌ?!
THEY'RE HERE TO SAVE KAKAZU?
AS SOON AS WE GET TO MY HOUSE, I'LL DRIVE YOU HOME.
Y-YEAH ...
ARE YOU ALRIGHT?

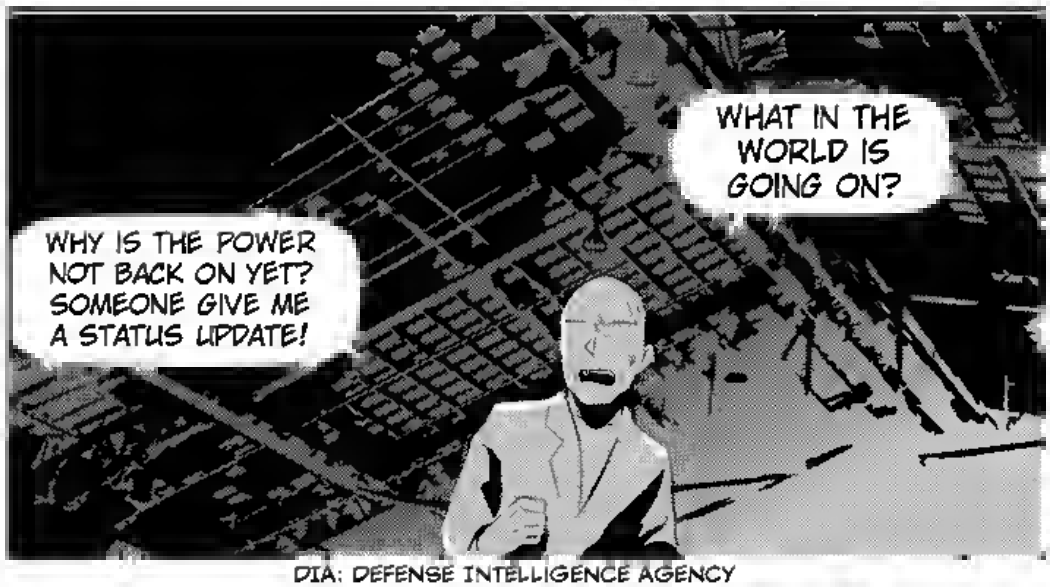
I...
HAVE A
REQUEST.
LET ME
BORROW
YOUR CAR.
THOSE
KIDS ARE MY
STUDENTS.
I CAN'T JUST
STAND HERE AND
WATCH THEM HEAD
INTO DANGER.

F
OOOOH
ALRIGHT! GO GET THEM, MY NEPHEW!!
WHOA!
CRASH!!
BANG
BANG
BANG
TOSS
COME AND GET IT!
KA-TAKA-TAKA-TA
WHAT ...

KA-BOOM
NOOOOOO!
AXXXX!
COUGH!
XXX!
STOMP
STOMP
STOMP
PLEASE BE OKAY...
ERIS...

THEY EVEN TOOK OUT THE BATTERY IN THE FLOODLIGHT PROJECTOR!
THUD
SHIT, THEY WRECKED THE BACKUP POWER SOURCE, TOO?!
OUCH!
TAP
COUGH
COUGH
POOF
WHOA!
ALMOST TO THE CENTER OF THE BASE...
I HAVE TO FIND ERIS, AND QUICK...

009 ENTANGLED THOUGHTS



DIA: DEFENSE INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

...
YOU HAVE TO CONSIDER DIA'S POSITION HERE.
GUMBLE
AFTER ALL, WE'RE ONLY BORROWING THIS LOCATION.
THE COMMANDING OFFICER'S PHONE LINE IS DOWN...
WHAT?!

SNAP
HMPH!
PUNCH!
W-WHAT THE HELL?!
H-HOW'D YOU DO THAT...?! THOSE WERE TITANIUM RESTRAINTS AND UNBREAKABLE GLASS!
LITTLE DID YOU KNOW... THIS SUIT I'M WEARING IS A PORTABLE POWER SUIT.

W-WITH THAT LEVEL OF STRENGTH... WHY'D YOU...
MY MISSION WAS TO DETERMINE WHO YOUR LEADER IS. NOW THAT I KNOW, THE PROOF RECORD WILL BE READY...
IN A COUPLE OF DAYS.
TO THOSE WHO BROKE REGULATIONS AND SECRETLY CONSPIRED WITH THE DOG PEOPLE,
CRACK
CRACK
NO MERCY SHALL BE GIVEN.
AHHHHHH...

HAVE YOU LOCATED THE WHEREABOUTS OF THE INTRUDERS?
UNFORTUNATELY, NO. BECAUSE OF THE POWER OUTAGE, THERE IS A MIX-UP WITH THE SIGHTING REPORTS...
A "LIFE-SIZED CUTE CAT PLUSH TOY," SIR...
THE REPORT SHOWS THAT THERE IS A BIG VAN IN ONE SPOT AND A BLACK MUSTANG IN ANOTHER.
THERE'S ALSO BEEN A SIGHTING OF...
?
I'M NOT HERE TO LISTEN TO SOME RIDICULOUS SLEEP TALK.
WHAT IS COMMANDER WHITMAN DOING RIGHT NOW?
HE'S "HAVING FUN FIGHTING OFF THE ENEMIES," SIR.
THAT IDIOT...

YOU DARE TO CHALLENGE THE GREAT UNITED STATES...?!
CLUNK
CLUNK
CLUNK
HA HA
DON'T EXPECT TO MAKE IT OUT OF HERE ALIVE!!
RRRM
ALL THE WAY TO THE FRONT OF THE ENEMY LINES!
RRRM
RRRM
YOU CAN KEEP ON DREAMING, IN TOKYO BAY OR IRAQ!!
AMERICA'S ENEMY IS MANKIND'S ENEMY!

YEAH!!
F*CK THE MARINES! I DON'T GIVE A CRAP ABOUT THEIR BUSINESS!
NOW, LET'S GET MOVING!
IT WAS A TOUGH TIME TO THE MARINES NOT LONG AGO...
C-CAPTAIN... WE'RE GONNA GET IN TROUBLE IF THOSE PEOPLE TURN OUT TO BE LOCAL CITIZENS AGAIN...
HE'S JUST MAKING THINGS WORSE...
HE NEVER THINKS ABOUT WHY THE SUPERIORS WON'T PUT HIM ON THE FRONT LINE, DOES HE? THAT BRAINLESS IDIOT!
F
LET HIM BE.
HUH?
WHAT SHOULD WE DO?
...

BARGES IN
E-
ERIS!!
!
POOOOF
?!
CRUMBLE
CRACKLE
wobble
COUGH.
COUGH.
W-
WHAT
HAPPENED
HERE...?

KIO!
ERIS!
THANK GOD YOU'RE ALRIGHT!

BUT REALLY, WHAT HAPPENED HERE...?
ARE THOSE PEOPLE OKAY?
I FIGURED THE ASSIST-A-ROIDS WERE GOING TO COME AND SAVE ME...
I DIDN'T EXPECT YOU TO COME TOO, KIO...
...
THUMP

GENTLE
EMBRACE
THANK YOU SO MUCH!
WAHHH!
E-ERIS, ENOUGH! ENOUGH!!
SQUEEZE
SQUEEZE
SQUEEZE
BOING
BOING
I'M SO HAPPY!!
WE'VE GOT TO GET OUT OF HERE, AND FAST!
SCREECH

SHIT!!
I-ITOKAZU-SENSEI...?
PSSHT
BANG
BANG
SWERVE
EMERGE
KIO'S UNCLE, HERE!
GRRR
SHIT, HE GOT THE TIRE!

VROOOM
TO GRIP
JUMP
OH, WHAT A COINCI-DENCE TO SEE YOU HERE, MANAMI-CHAN.
THANKS!
W-WHAT CAN I SAY... AHAHA..
MY NAME'S AOI FUTABA. IT'S NICE TO MEET YOU, MISTER.
HEY, I'M MIYAGI, KIO'S UNCLE.
IS KIO-KUN ALRIGHT? WHERE IS HE NOW?
SPEAK OF THE DEVIL.
IT SEEMS LIKE HE'S ALRIGHT, AFTER ALL.
SLEEP MUCH, HUH?

AH YES, ERIS IS DOING FINE.
IN FACT, IT SEEMS LIKE SHE DIDN'T REALLY NEED ANY HELP...
OH, THAT'S NOT TRUE.
VROOOOM
RRRRMM
I'M IN ITOKAZU-SENSEI'S CAR RIGHT NOW...
UNCLE, WHERE SHOULD WE MEET UP?
HUH ...?
WHAT ?!
YOU'RE WITH MANAMI-CHAN AND FUTABA?

SO I GUESS WE HAVE TO CONTINUE ON IN THE CAR.
THE HELICOPTER I HAD ARRANGED CAN'T CARRY THAT MANY PEOPLE.
!
THUMP
WOW... I DIDN'T KNOW YOU KNEW HOW TO DO THAT, FUTABA.
IF WE CAN GET TO IT, I CAN OPERATE IT.
NOT IF WE CAN STEAL THAT MILITARY TRANSPORT HELICOPTER...
'SOMEWHAT' IS NOT EXACTLY THE BEST WORD TO DESCRIBE BEING ABLE TO NAVIGATE A CUSTOM MUSTANG...
BUT IF I SAY SOMETHING, SHE MIGHT KILL ME.
THAT'S AWESOME! WHERE'D YOU LEARN TO FLY?
Y-YEAH... S-SOMEWHAT...
I REGRET THE THINGS I'VE DONE TO HIS FRIEND AND WOULD LIKE TO ATONE...
COME TO THINK OF IT...
I'M SURE THAT'S NOT GONNA GET KIO TO FORGIVE ME...
WELL, NOW I JUST SEEM LIKE FUTABA'S MINION...

WAS THAT THE ONLY REASON FUTABA CAME HERE?
I DOUBT IT...
LOOK, THE BIG HELICOPTER...
IS RIGHT THERE.
HUH?
WHOP
WHOP
WHOP
WHOP
WHOP
WHOP
WHAT'S THAT? SEEMS LIKE THE FLYING MECHANISM WAS NOT CALIBRATED PROPERLY ...
IT'S WOBBLING ...
YEAH... I GUESS THEY'RE NOT TALL ENOUGH.
wobble

WHOP
WHOP
WHOP
WHOP
wobble
WHOP
WHOP
WHOP
NOFAIL NONO
Ahh...
WHAT?!
IT'S YOU GUYS?! I THOUGHT I TOLD YOU TO RUN...
SO THESE LITTLE THINGS WERE OPERATING THE HELICOPTER?
YUP, THEY ARE EQUIPPED WITH THE NECESSARY REFLEXIVE ABILITY FOR THAT KIND OF TASK.
THANK GOODNESS, NOW WE CAN GO...

BOOM
HUH?!
BOOM
SOME-
THING'S
COMING
OUR
WAY!
THUD
THUD
THUD
キュラ
CREAK
CREAK
キュラ

APPEAR
IS THIS FOR REAL?!
IS-

LET HIM DO WHAT HE WANTS.
AT LEAST THE GENERALS BACK IN THE STATES WILL FINALLY UNDERSTAND HOW STUPID IT IS TO PLACE AN IDIOT LIKE WHITMAN OUT HERE.
JUST MAKE SURE THE MP ARE READY TO STOP HIM, SHOULD HE DECIDE TO FIRE.

MP: MILITARY POLICE

RING
RING
RING
RING
SWITCH
SHOCK
HELLO, IS THIS LAWTON?
SWITCH

010 THE UNEXPECTED ALLY

THESE PEOPLE AREN'T THAT SLOW EITHER.
HOWEVER, IF WE GOT SHOT EVEN ONCE, WITHIN A 5 METER RADIUS, WE'D BE DEAD.
IF WE GOT IN THE CAR AND MADE A RUN FOR IT, WE'D PROBABLY WIN WITH SPEED.
WE'VE MADE IT THIS FAR AFTER ALL.
I THINK THERE'S A VALUE IN TAKING A CHANCE.
ALRIGHT THEN, IT'S SETTLED.

EXCUSE ME...
HERE'S THE MISO SET.
A LUNCH PLEASE!
HELLO, LAWTON! ♡
DO YOU REMEMBER ME? GRANDMA USHI, FROM THE KAKAZU FAMILY...?
WHO WAS IT...?
STOP HIM...
HUH?
ピピピ...
Y-YES!
YES MA'AM!
I UNDERSTAND!
OF COURSE, THAT'S NO PROBLEM!
STOP COMMANDER WHITMAN, RIGHT NOW!
RIGHT ...
NOW!
HURRY UP!!

I WAS A NOVICE WHO'D NEVER BEEN ON A BATTLEFIELD! I INSTANTLY SAW HOW GRUESOME AND TRAUMATIZING WAR COULD BE...!!
MOREOVER, THERE'S A SECRET STONE CIRCLE UNDERNEATH THE BASE WHERE SOLDIERS WOULD GO MISSING ANYTIME AMERICA WENT TO WAR.
NOBODY COULD SOLVE THE MYSTERY...
THAT WOMAN WAS THE ONE WHO RID ME OF THE TERRIFYING, RECURRING NIGHTMARES I HAD FROM MY STINT IN VIETNAM.
TREMBLE
TREMBLE
TREMBLE
UNTIL THAT WOMAN UNCOVERED IT ALL...!!

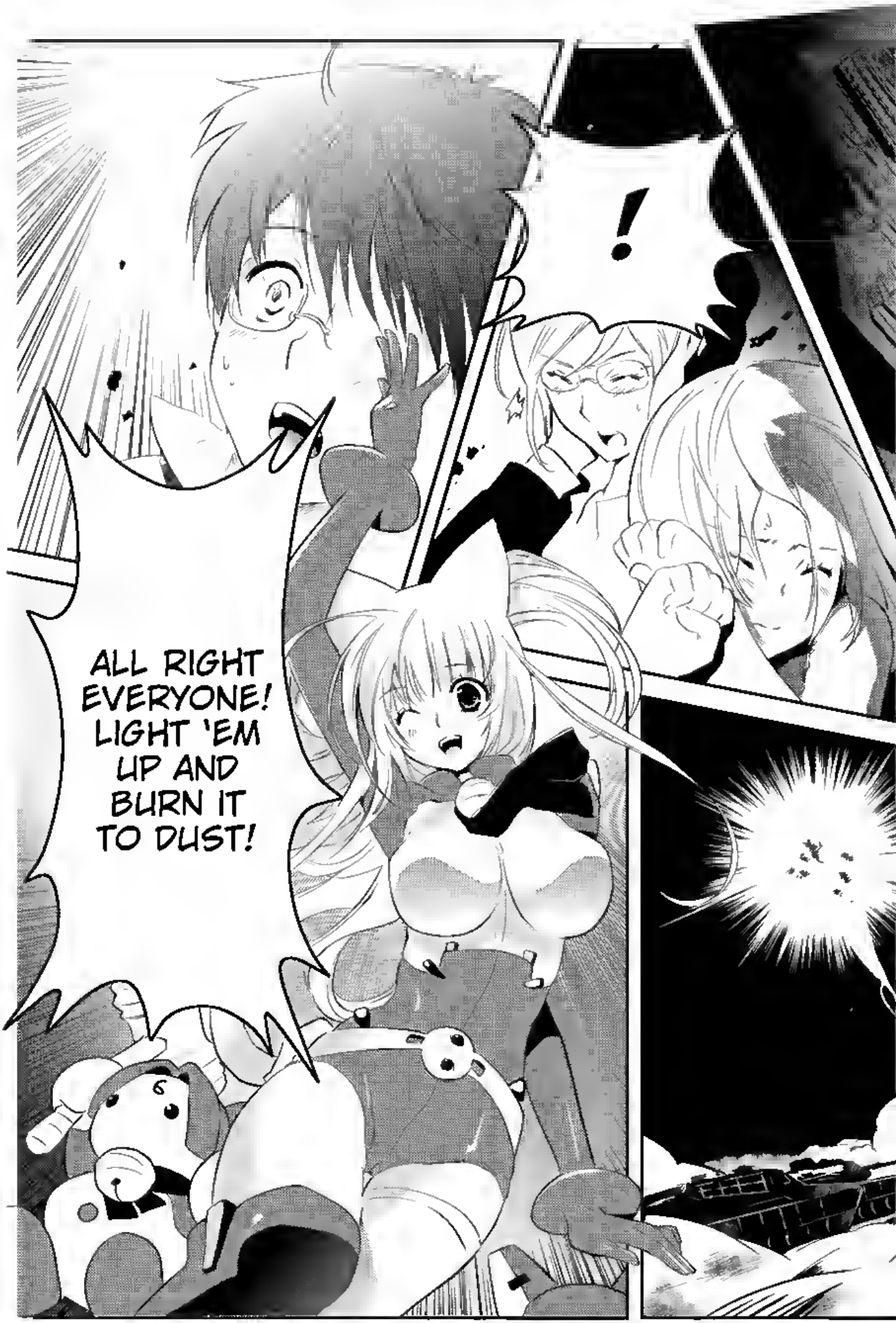
NEVER!
THERE'S NO WAY I AM GOING TO DISOBEY HER!

UM... I HAVE A QUESTION.
DO YOU MEAN TO SAY...
THAT WE'LL BE FINE IF WE CAN GET RID OF THOSE TANKS?
DO YOU HAVE A PLAN...?
YEP, I DO.
GATHER UP, GUYS!
STEP STEP STEP

EVERY-BODY, PREPARE FOR BATTLE!
THAT'S OUR TARGET, GO!
BOINK
1
2
12
3
WHA...
H-HOLD UP...
MARCH
IT'S NO USE! ERIS, STOP!

DON'T WORRY!
I'M GOING TOO.
ERIS ...!

ドドドド
BBBB


!
ALL RIGHT EVERYONE! LIGHT 'EM UP AND BURN IT TO DUST!

MMMM
OSHI

BURN
BOINK
HU
SWOO

WHAT HAPPENED THAT DAY STILL SEEMS LIKE A DREAM.
IT'S ALREADY AUGUST AND OKINAWA IS REACHING ITS HOTTEST SEASON YET.
MIIN
MIIN
MIIN
MIIN
AFTER THAT, WE SUCCESS-FULLY ESCAPED THROUGH THE FRONT GATE.
SO HOT...
MIIN
MIIN
A MAN, PERHAPS THE COMMANDING GENERAL OF THE MILITARY BASE, EVEN SHOOK OUR HANDS AND TOLD ME TO "TELL YOUR GRAND-MOTHER I SAID HELLO".
EVEN NOW, I STILL HAVE NO IDEA WHAT HE MEANT BY THAT.
THOUGH IT SEEMS LIKE UNCLE KNEW EXACTLY WHAT THAT WAS ABOUT.

MANAMI-CHAN SEEMS TO HAVE GIVEN UP PREPARING FOR THE GOVERNMENT WORKER'S EXAM.
PERHAPS BECAUSE OF WHAT HAPPENED BETWEEN HER AND ERIS, SHE STILL KEEPS HER DISTANCE.
FUTABA, ON THE OTHER HAND, MOVED OUT OF HER SUITE AND RELOCATED TO AN APARTMENT NEAR MY HOUSE.
ALTHOUGH IT SEEMS LIKE SOMETHING'S BEEN BOTHERING HER, I FEEL LIKE IT'S BEST NOT TO ASK...
WHAT'S MORE SURPRISING IS THAT NOT A SINGLE WORD WAS LEAKED ABOUT THE RIDICULOUS HAPPENINGS THAT DAY.
MIIN
MIIN
AS FOR ME, MY BODY WAS SORE FOR DAYS AFTERWARDS.
AND THEN ...
カラッ
OPEN

POPS OUT
WELCOME BACK, KIOOOO!!
Welcome Back!
THANKS.
ERIS SPENDS MOST OF HER TIME AT THE LIBRARY GATHERING INFORMATION ...
YOU GUYS DIDN'T HAVE TO LEARN THAT KIND OF STUFF
Would you like to eat?
Or take a bath?
AND EVERY DAY, SHE COMES BACK WITH A CONE OF ICE CREAM...
IT ALMOST SEEMS LIKE THAT DAY WAS JUST A DREAM.
THAT MO-MENT ...

SO, PLEASE LET US GO.
OUR SOLE OBJECTIVE IS TO GET OUT OF HERE NOTHING ELSE.
BOW
THEY ARE ABLE TO SIMULATE THE PROCESS OF DESTRUCTION AND GET RID OF NON-ORGANIC MATTER.
THESE ARE PSEUDO-ANTIMATTER HAMMERS.
THIS!
LEADER
COMMANDER
SNIPER
DRIVER

I'VE GATHERED ALMOST ALL THE INFORMATION AVAILABLE THERE...
OH, WELL... YOU SEE,
AND I JUST SENT OUT THE REPORTS I PIECED TOGETHER.

YOU'RE NOT GOING TO THE LIBRARY TODAY?
I HOPE THAT SOMEHOW, LIFE CAN CONTINUE PEACEFULLY LIKE THIS...
IN ANY CASE, I'M JUST GLAD ERIS WAS OKAY.

YOUR INVESTIGATION IS DONE...?
OH... SO THAT MEANS ...
NOD
ARE YOU... GOING HOME?
SO MUCH HAS HAPPENED SINCE I ARRIVED ON EARTH,
AND THANKS TO YOU, KIO...
BOW
I REALLY HAD A LOT OF FUN. THANK YOU SO MUCH.
OH I SEE...
IN THAT CASE, WE SHOULD THROW A FAREWELL PARTY FOR YOU...

NO WORRIES, I MEAN... WE'RE FRIENDS.
I REALLY DIDN'T THINK YOU'D PUT YOURSELF IN SUCH DANGER JUST TO SAVE ME...
I JUST WANT TO SAY THAT I WAS REALLY HAPPY WHEN YOU CAME TO SAVE ME.
KIO... UMM...
SO, UM... I-IF YOU DON'T MIND,
COULD YOU... BE MY PARTNER...
UHH...
WELL... UH... YOU SEE,
IT WON'T BE TOO LONG UNTIL MY FIRST "MATING SEASON" COMES...
UM... UM...
BLUUUUSH
PARTNER
H-HOPEFULLY BECAUSE OF THAT, I WOULD BE ABLE TO TAKE A PERSONAL TRIP BACK HERE...
HIDING.

I MEAN, I WILL.
I WILL DEFINITELY COME BACK HERE.
CASCADE
トキ THUMP
PLEASE ...

S-SO... IF YOU AGREE TO THIS...
COULD WE MAKE A VOW FIRST...?
CARESS
WHOA...
THUMP
THUMP
THUMP
THUMP

BARGE IN
KIOOOO! TURN ON THE T.V.!
YOU DIDN'T SEE THE NEWS?! TURN IT ON, RIGHT NOW!
W-WHAT IS IT, MANAMI-CHAN?
SWOOF
AH, IT'S SO HOT
WHAT'S GOING ON
ごごご

A UFO APPEARED OVER NAHA CITY JUST NOW,
AND IT'S TRANSMITTING A MESSAGE TO ALL NEWS, MEDIA, AND PUBLISHING COMPANIES THROUGH THE FULL FREQUENCY.
THE MESSAGE READS, "WE DID NOT COME TO EARTH TO HARM ANYONE. WE ARE HERE TO ESTABLISH A FRIENDSHIP AND AN ALLIANCE WITH EARTH.
SO, PEOPLE OF THIS PLANET, LET US SING, PLAY, AND HAVE FUN TOGETHER."
UNIDENTIFIED FLYING OBJECT OVER NAHA
WAIT-
CANNOT CONNECT TO-
IN ORDER TO DETERMINE THE VALIDITY OF THIS MESSAGE, THE GOVERNMENT IS CURRENTLY HOLDING AN EMERGENCY MEETING...
HMM? WHAT'S THE MOTHER-SHIP DOING THERE...?
THUMP THUMP
MOTHER-SHIP? YOU MEAN YOURS?
YUP, THAT'S THE SHIP THAT BROUGHT ME HERE.
ERISSSSS! IS ERIS HERE?!

ガ
OPEN!
HEY, PARDON OUR INTRUSION.
ラ
LONG TIME NO SEE, ERIS
CHIEF!
WHAT HAPPENED?! I THOUGHT YOU GUYS DECIDED TO OBSERVE A LITTLE MORE?!
やきにく
WELL, THERE WAS SOMETHING ABOUT "YAKINIKU" ...
IN ONE OF YOUR REPORTS AND IT HAD A TASTE MEMORY ATTACHED, CORRECT?
YOU SEE, THAT GAINED A LOT OF POPULARITY!

EVERY-BODY'S DYING TO TRY THIS "YAKINIKU"...
WE DID A LOT OF PERSUADING AS WELL.
AND PARTLY BECAUSE THEY ARE BECOMING RESTLESS FROM THE LONG PERIOD OF NOT WALKING ON EARTHEN SOIL,
THE CAPTAIN FINALLY AGREED TO MAKE A FORMAL DECISION.
PEOPLE WANTED TO MAKE A FORMAL ALLIANCE AS SOON AS POSSIBLE,
SO THAT'S WHAT HAP-PENED.
WE WERE ORDERED TO BE THE FIRST TEAM TO EXPLORE THE FRONTIER.
WHAT... IS THIS...

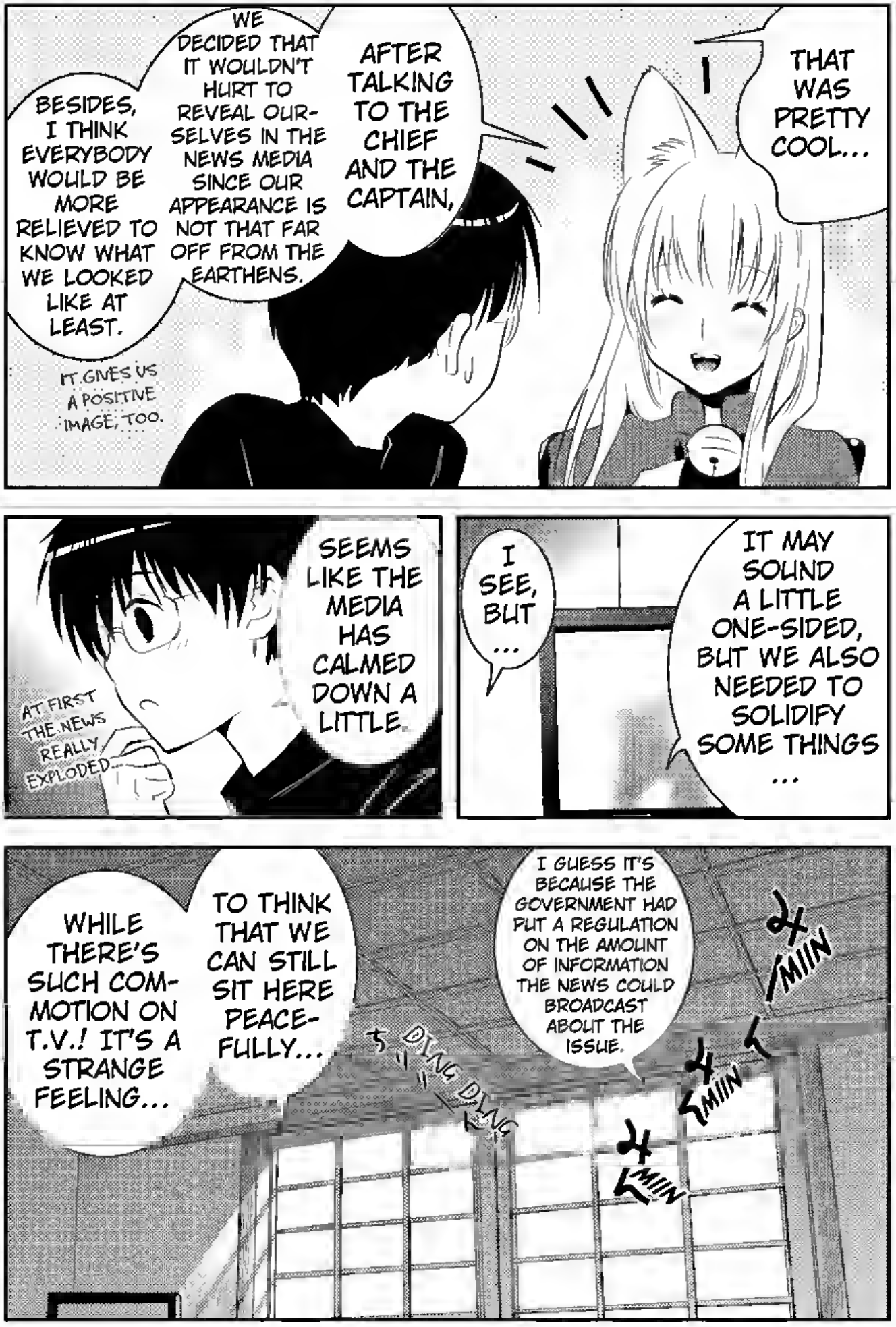
SPEECHLESS
ぽかーん…
JOIN US, ERIS!
SORRY FOR THE SHORT NOTICE...
WE'VE COME HERE TO PLAY!!

Let's Go Play!

Let's Go Play!

EVERYBODY PLEASE TAKE A LOOK AT THIS BEAUTIFUL YOUNG GIRL WITH CAT EARS AND A TAIL...!
SHE IS THE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE EXTRA-TERRESTRIAL SPECIES...
WHO'S HERE TO ESTABLISH A FRIENDSHIP WITH THE EARTH!
IT'S BEEN CONFIRMED THAT THEY ARRIVED IN THAT UFO LOOMING ABOVE NAHA BAY AT THIS VERY MOMENT!
THEIR LANGUAGE IS SO SIMILAR TO JAPANESE ... THAT YOU COULD SAY IT'S THE SAME LANGUAGE.
A PHOTOGRAPH TAKEN FROM THE GREAT NAHA BAY BRIDGE.
BUT THAT FLYING DISK THING IS AMAZING ISN'T IT?
AT FIRST, I ASSUMED IT WAS SOME KIND OF JOKE...

WOW
...


THAT WAS PRETTY COOL...
AFTER TALKING TO THE CHIEF AND THE CAPTAIN,
WE DECIDED THAT IT WOULDN'T HURT TO REVEAL OURSELVES IN THE NEWS MEDIA SINCE OUR APPEARANCE IS NOT THAT FAR OFF FROM THE EARTHENS.
BESIDES, I THINK EVERYBODY WOULD BE MORE RELIEVED TO KNOW WHAT WE LOOKED LIKE AT LEAST.
IT GIVES US A POSITIVE IMAGE, TOO.
SEEMS LIKE THE MEDIA HAS CALMED DOWN A LITTLE.
AT FIRST THE NEWS REALLY EXPLODED...
I SEE, BUT ...
IT MAY SOUND A LITTLE ONE-SIDED, BUT WE ALSO NEEDED TO SOLIDIFY SOME THINGS ...
I GUESS IT'S BECAUSE THE GOVERNMENT HAD PUT A REGULATION ON THE AMOUNT OF INFORMATION THE NEWS COULD BROADCAST ABOUT THE ISSUE.
MIIN
MIIN
MIIN
DING DING
TO THINK THAT WE CAN STILL SIT HERE PEACEFULLY...
WHILE THERE'S SUCH COMMOTION ON T.V.! IT'S A STRANGE FEELING...

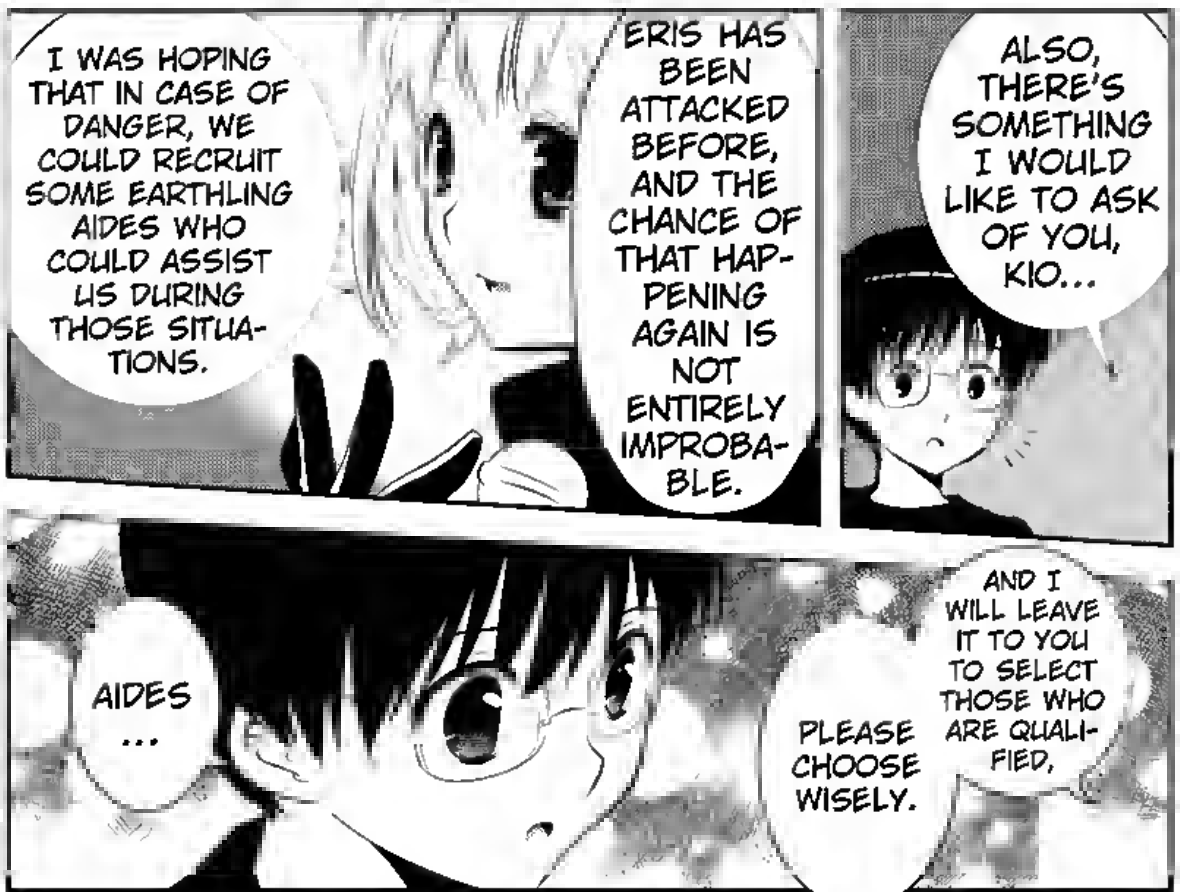
OR MAYBE YOU BLEND IN ON THE STREET SO WELL, THAT AT FIRST GLANCE PEOPLE CAN'T CONNECT YOU WITH THE ERIS ON T.V.?
OH...
I GUESS MOST CIVILIANS ASSUME THAT WE LIVE INSIDE THE SPACE-SHIP...
THAT'S WHY THEY'D NEVER THINK THAT WE'D BE LIVING OUT HERE CASUALLY.
AT THAT TIME, WE WERE BEING NAIVE.
AND WHO WOULD HAVE THOUGHT THE IMAGES OF ERIS BROAD-CASTED ON T.V. WOULD BRING ABOUT SUCH UNEXPECTED TROUBLES...
MIIN
WE DIDN'T THINK TWICE ABOUT HOW UNNATURAL THE NEWS WAS...

ACCORDING TO THE CAPTAIN,
WE NEED TO SECURE ONE, VERY IMPORTANT, THING BEFORE WE CAN MAKE MOVE FORWARD.
CATIAN SPACE-SHIP ANALYST AND CAPTAIN, CHAYKA
WHAT THING ...?
MONEY.
EVEN IF OUR FORM OF COMMUNICATION IS SIMILAR, OUR CURRENCY AND WAYS OF COMMERCE ARE COMPLETELY DIFFERENT.
BECAUSE OF THAT, WE NEED TO SECURE A SOURCE OF FUNDING.
Y-YOU MEAN FROM US...?
OF COURSE NOT! WE'RE TALKING IN HUNDRED-MILLIONS HERE!
おくっ
WHOA...?

I'M TALKING ABOUT THE JAPANESE GOVERN-MENT.
WE MIGHT BE ABLE TO SECURE A TRADE OF TOUCH-STONES.
AND IF POSSIBLE, WE HOPE TO ESTABLISH A DIPLOMATIC RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE TWO NATIONS.
THOUGH, IT SEEMS A LITTLE OUT OF REACH RIGHT NOW.
BUT IF WE CAN'T DO THAT,
ALL THE CATIAN SHIP CREW WILL NOT BE ABLE TO WALK ON THE LAND.
HOW MANY PEOPLE ARE ON THAT SPACE SHIP RIGHT NOW?
AROUND 30,000 PEOPLE ... I THINK?
IT'S PROBLEMATIC...
AND THAT BRINGS ME TO WHY I CAME HERE TODAY...
THOUGH, EVEN WITH COMPLAINTS EVERY-WHERE, IT'S REALLY THE CAPTAIN'S DECISION.
AND EVERYBODY IS ALREADY DYING TO COME OUT...

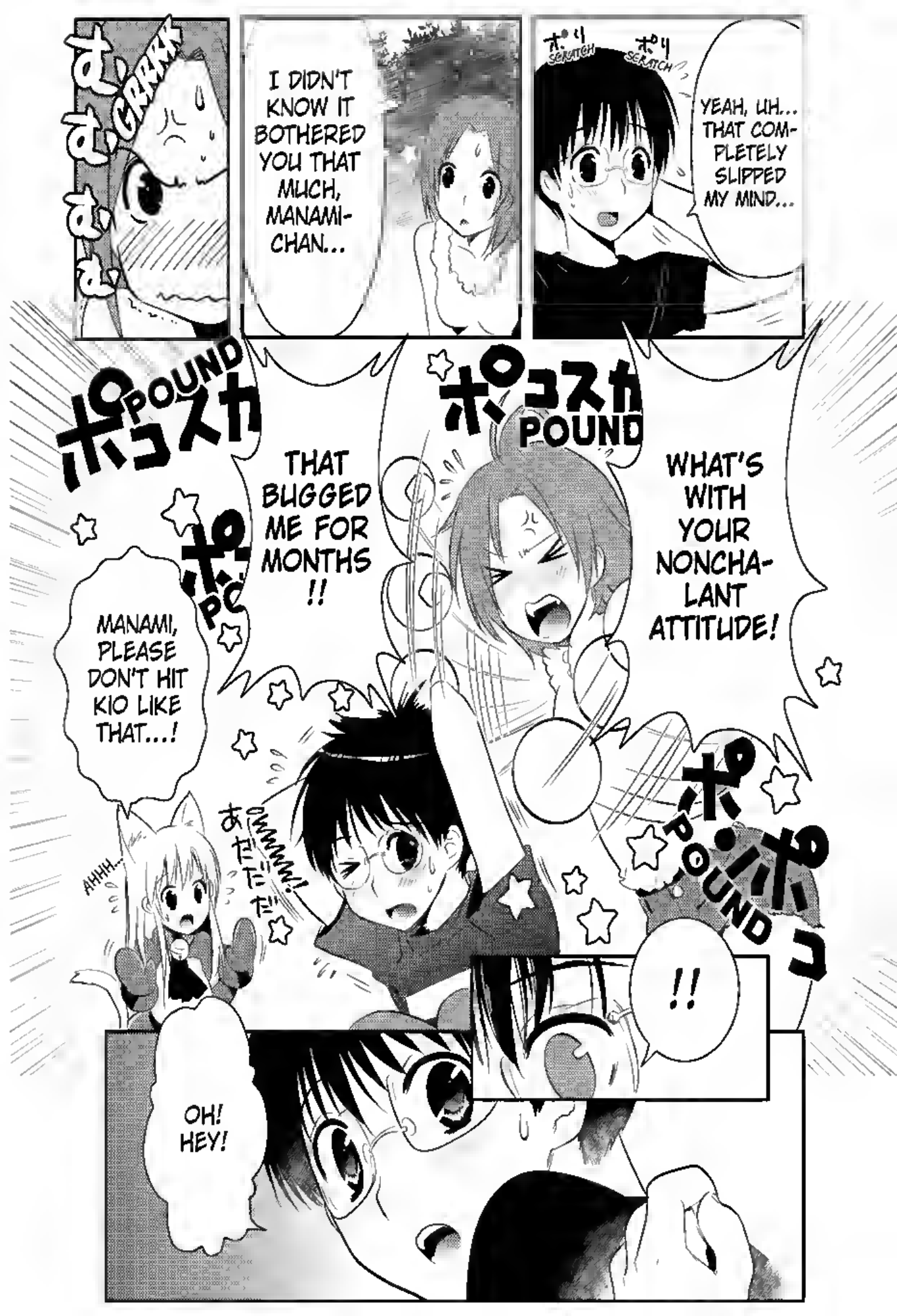
AS A TEMPORARY CATIAN EMBASSY FROM TODAY FORWARD!
PLEASE ALLOW US TO USE THIS HOUSE, OWNED BY THE KAKAZU FAMILY,
W-WHA...
OF COURSE, THAT DOESN'T MEAN YOU HAVE TO HOUSE ALL THE CATIANS. NOTHING WILL CHANGE MUCH ...
AND ERIS WILL REMAIN AS THE ONLY RESIDENT HERE.
ペコリ
BOWS
TO AID OUR FUTURE NEGOTIATIONS AND BUREAUCRATIC PROCESS, OUR CAPTAIN SINCERELY REQUESTS THIS SITE BE ESTABLISHED FOR OUR CONGREGATIONAL PURPOSES.
AND I TOO, SEEK YOUR AGREEMENT.
D-DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT, CHAYKA!
IF NOTHING WILL CHANGE, THEN I AM FINE WITH IT.

WONDERFUL! NOW I MUST DEVISE A PLAN THAT'D FURTHER PROGRESS OUR NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE JAPANESE GOVERNMENT.
THERE'S A SAYING "FORESTALL YOUR ENEMY".
SO, I GUESS IT WOULD BE ADVANTAGEOUS TO HAVE SOMETHING IN HAND THAT WOULD MAKE YOU ONE STEP AHEAD IN THE GAME.
ERIS, IF YOU'VE GOT ANY GOOD IDEAS, LET ME KNOW IMMEDIATELY.
GOOD... IDEAS...


ERIS HAS BEEN ATTACKED BEFORE, AND THE CHANCE OF THAT HAPPENING AGAIN IS NOT ENTIRELY IMPROBABLE.
I WAS HOPING THAT IN CASE OF DANGER, WE COULD RECRUIT SOME EARTHLING AIDES WHO COULD ASSIST US DURING THOSE SITUATIONS.
ALSO, THERE'S SOMETHING I WOULD LIKE TO ASK OF YOU, KIO...
AND I WILL LEAVE IT TO YOU TO SELECT THOSE WHO ARE QUALIFIED,
PLEASE CHOOSE WISELY.
AIDES ...

KIO... YOU HERE?
カラララ...
RUMBLE...
みーんみんみんみーん
MIIN MIIN MIIN MIIN
...?
I DIDN'T GET A CHANCE TO SAY THIS BEFORE, BUT...
UM... YOU SEE...
HESITATE
INSISTENT
I AM SORRY!
I'M VERY SORRY!

BECAUSE OF ME, ERIS WAS KIDNAPPED ...
AND, UH, I NEVER APOLO-GIZED TO YOU GUYS FOR THAT...
BESIDES, I DIDN'T FEEL THAT I WAS IN A POSITION TO SAY ANYTHING ...
SINCE I WAS ONLY RIDING ALONG WITH FUTABA AT THAT TIME...
IT'S OKAY, MANAMI ...
I DON'T MIND AT ALL.
PLUS, YOU CAME TO SAVE US IN THE END TOO, DIDN'T YOU?
RIGHT, KIO...?
UH...


GRRR
I DIDN'T KNOW IT BOTHERED YOU THAT MUCH, MANAMI-CHAN...
SCRATCH
SCRATCH
YEAH, UH... THAT COMPLETELY SLIPPED MY MIND...
POUND
THAT BUGGED ME FOR MONTHS !!
POUND
WHAT'S WITH YOUR NONCHALANT ATTITUDE!
MANAMI, PLEASE DON'T HIT KIO LIKE THAT...!
AHHH...
POUND
!!
OH! HEY!

AS A CATIAN AMBASSA-DOR'S GUARD!
ISN'T MANAMI-CHAN THE PERFECT CANDIDATE?
IF IT'S MANAMI, I HAVE NO PROBLEMS TRUSTING HER.
CLAP
THAT'S A GOOD IDEA!!
AND YOU HAD THE EXPERI-ENCE OF WORKING WITH THE CIA!
I MEAN IT SEEMS LIKE YOU'RE USED TO WIELDING DIFFERENT WEAPONS,
HUH ...?
AFTER A SERIES OF EXPLANATIONS...
CLUNK
THEN I WOULDN'T MIND TAKING ON THE RESPONSI-BILITY, I GUESS.
I SEE... I-IF THAT'S THE CASE ...
MIIN

WELL, IF YOU LOOK AT IT ANOTHER WAY...
THIS UNRELENTING KINDNESS IS ONE OF KIO'S CHARMS...
YAY!
HOW CARELESS...
DO THEY NOT REALIZE THAT I BETRAYED THEM ONCE...
THOUGH, I FEEL A LITTLE BITTER, LIKE I'M JUST ALONG FOR THE RIDE...
NOW THAT WE'RE BACK TO NORMAL, WHY NOT...
THAT'S THE REASON...
HE WAS ABLE TO GAIN COMPLETE TRUST FROM ERIS AND HER PEOPLE ...
OH, WAIT!
WHAT?
I KNOW OF ANOTHER PERSON...
THAT MIGHT BE SUITABLE FOR THIS JOB AS WELL.

YOU WANT ...
M-ME ...?
I KNOW THIS IS SUDDEN, AND IT MIGHT NOT BE A CONVENIENT TIME FOR YOU...
NOT AT ALL!
IT'S NO TROUBLE AT ALL ...
PLEASE... LET ME HELP YOU.
I THINK WITH FUTABA ON OUR SIDE, WE'D BE STRONGER THAN EVER.
C'MON, JOIN US!
YEAH, MANAMI-CHAN SUGGESTED IT! I MEAN, C'MON ...
YOU KNOW HOW TO OPERATE A HELICOPTER! IT'D BE GREAT IF YOU'D HELP US OUT...

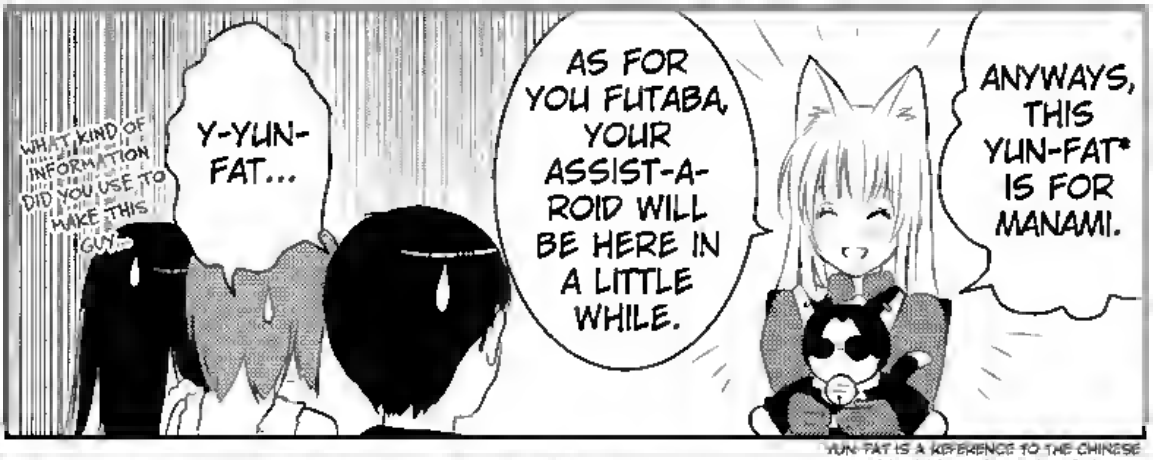
I WOULD NEVER HAVE EXPECTED THEM TO TRUST ME.
GREAT!
AND TO THINK I AM NEEDED...?!
PERHAPS, NOW I CAN BE RELIEVED FROM MY GUILT, EVEN JUST MOMENTARILY...
THOUGH I'VE NEVER TOLD KAKAZU-KUN ABOUT WHAT HAD REALLY HAPPENED...
I DIDN'T THINK MY EXISTENCE WAS NECESSARY TO ANYONE ANYMORE...
NOT SINCE THE DAY THAT I WAS THROWN AWAY...
THANK YOU SO MUCH, MANAMI AND FUTABA!!
!!!
WHILE WE'RE AT IT, PERHAPS IT'S A GOOD TIME FOR...
BEEP
ピピピピピ
BEEP
BEEP
FOR ...?

UMBLE
ZOOM
WHOA?!

ゴゴゴゴ
RRRRRRR
ニャキーン
KA-CHIN!
WELL, YOU SEE, THE PRIOR ASSIST-A-ROIDS DIDN'T LOOK AGGRESSIVE, AND IT CAUSED SOME CONFUSION...
SHUFFLE
SHUFFLE
SHUFFLE
PIVOT POINT
UM... ERIS, WHAT'S THIS?

SO FROM NOW ON, THESE LITTLE GUYS WILL ASSIST US ON OUR MISSIONS.
SHOCK
あせ"ん
ALSO, I'M GIVING YOU TWO YOUR VERY OWN, PERSONAL ASSIST-A-ROIDS.

SO I VOICED THIS CONCERN WITH THE MOTHER-SHIP CREW.
A FEW TWEAKS LATER AND THIS IS ONE VARIATION THEY CAME UP WITH.


Y-YUN-FAT...
WHAT KIND OF INFORMATION DID YOU USE TO MAKE THIS GUY...
AS FOR YOU FUTABA, YOUR ASSIST-A-ROID WILL BE HERE IN A LITTLE WHILE.
ANYWAYS, THIS YUN-FAT* IS FOR MANAMI.

*YUN-FAT IS A REFERENCE TO THE CHINESE ACTOR ACTOR CHOW YUN-FAT

OH GOD, I'M GETTING A HEADACHE ...
ISN'T THIS... THE HAMMER THAT YOUR ASSIST-A-ROIDS USED TO DESTROY THOSE TANKS WITH A SINGLE STRIKE ...?
BOOOINK

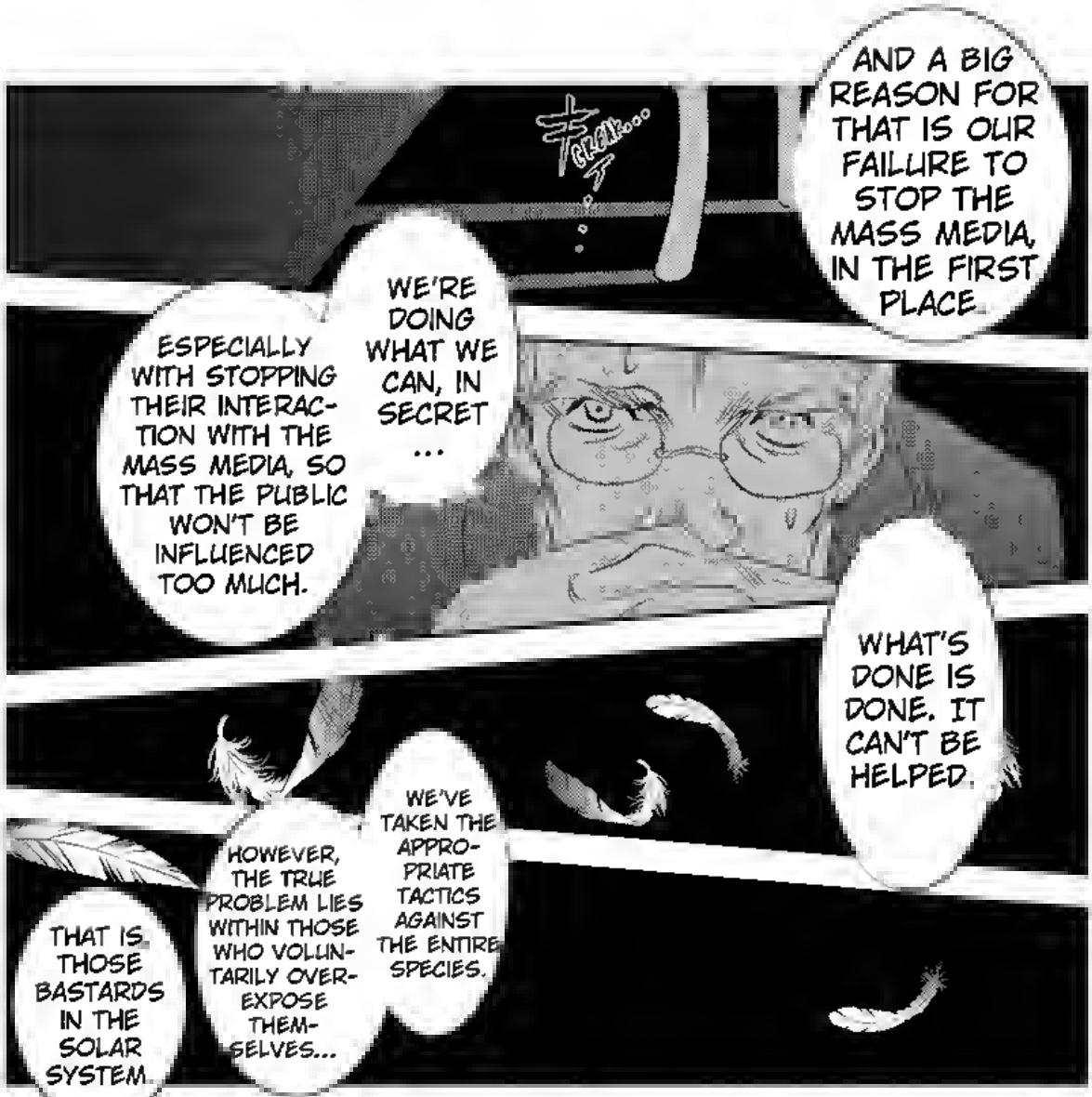
UH...
THANKS YOU GUYS, FOR AGREEING TO HELP.
SINCE THERE ARE THREE OF US...
MAYBE THIS IS BETTER.
EXTEND
UM...
?
YOU'VE NEVER DONE THIS BEFORE, FUTABA?
A TEAMWORK GESTURE...
!
GRAB!
PUT YOUR HAND HERE.

ONE!*
ONE...
THAT'S KIND OF WEIRD TO SAY HERE...
BUT ANYWAY, LET'S DO THIS!
*REFERRING TO THE IDEA OF "ALL FOR ONE!"
YAY, KIO YOU LOSE ...!
WHAT THE HECK?!
JUMP!
SLAP!
OUCH!
KAKAZU-KUN'S HAND... IS SO BIG...
AND FULL OF WARMTH...
THUMP
THUMP
THUMP
N-N-NO WORRIES ...!
SHAKE
SHAKE
SHAKE
OH! SORRY IF YOU DIDN'T LIKE THAT, FUTABA.

OKAY! SEE YOU LATER!
OKAY

B-BYE ...
O-OKAY ...

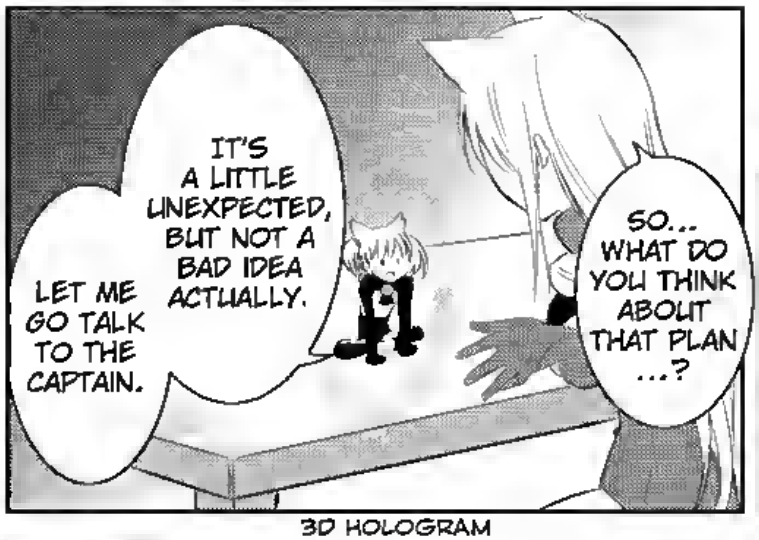
AS EXPECTED, THEY'RE AFRAID THEY WON'T BE ABLE TO DECLINE AS THE COMMOTION GETS BIGGER...
SO WHAT DID THE JAPANESE GOVERNMENT SAY?
PLNP...


AND A BIG REASON FOR THAT IS OUR FAILURE TO STOP THE MASS MEDIA, IN THE FIRST PLACE.
Tsuk...
WE'RE DOING WHAT WE CAN, IN SECRET ...
ESPECIALLY WITH STOPPING THEIR INTERACTION WITH THE MASS MEDIA, SO THAT THE PUBLIC WON'T BE INFLUENCED TOO MUCH.
WHAT'S DONE IS DONE. IT CAN'T BE HELPED.
WE'VE TAKEN THE APPROPRIATE TACTICS AGAINST THE ENTIRE SPECIES.
HOWEVER, THE TRUE PROBLEM LIES WITHIN THOSE WHO VOLUNTARILY OVEREXPOSE THEMSELVES...
THAT IS, THOSE BASTARDS IN THE SOLAR SYSTEM.

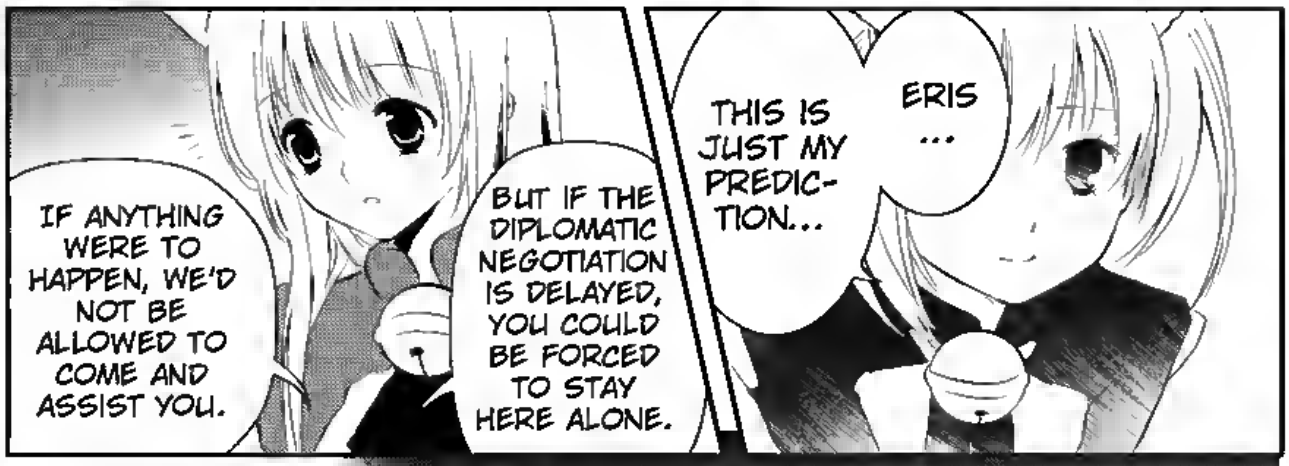
LIEUTENANT JENS!!
FOR SOME OF THEM YES... BUT LET'S LEAVE THE REST TO NATURAL SELECTION.

AND I'M ASSUMING YOUR WISH IS ...
TOTAL ANNIHILATION.
RIGHT ...?

I'LL LEND YOU LIEUTENANT JENS, AND HER TROOPS.
YOU'RE TO OBEY HER ORDERS.
Y-YES, SIR...
I LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOUR PROGRESS, LIEUTENANT JENS.
APPEARS
YES, SIR!
YOU CAN COUNT ON ME!


SO... WHAT DO YOU THINK ABOUT THAT PLAN ...?
IT'S A LITTLE UNEXPECTED, BUT NOT A BAD IDEA ACTUALLY.
LET ME GO TALK TO THE CAPTAIN.

3D HOLOGRAM


ERIS ...
THIS IS JUST MY PREDIC-TION...
BUT IF THE DIPLOMATIC NEGOTIATION IS DELAYED, YOU COULD BE FORCED TO STAY HERE ALONE.
IF ANYTHING WERE TO HAPPEN, WE'D NOT BE ALLOWED TO COME AND ASSIST YOU.

I KNOW ...
UNFORTUNATELY YOU WOULD HAVE TO TAKE ON THIS BIG RESPONSIBILITY BY YOURSELF...
BUT TO BE HONEST, I CAN'T WAIT TO EXPLORE THE EARTH!
IT'D BE AWESOME IF I COULD TRY SOME "YAKINIKU" MYSELF!
AHH

YES!
I THINK SO, TOO.
I KNOW I HAVE NOTHING TO WORRY ABOUT.
ANYWAY, YOU'VE REALLY MADE SOME GREAT FRIENDS HERE.
REMEMBER, YOU'RE MY REPRESENTATIVE ON THIS PLANET.
FROM NOW ON WE'LL BE FACING EVEN GREATER CHALLENGES. PLEASE DO YOUR BEST.
HAAAA...
YAWN
MY DATA REPORT TOOK LONGER THAN I THOUGHT IT WOULD...

RUSTLE
ZZZ...
ZZZ...
PURR PURR PURR
HMM~
HMM~
NEXT MORNING.
#?@$%!!
ズドーン
CLUNK!

Let's Go Play!

Let's Go Play!

MIN
MIIN
MIN
YEAR 200A, SUMMER
SAITAMA SUPER ARENA
FLASH
GULP

MEEOOOW!

MEE
012 THE CAT-EAR CRAZE

SWOOSH
SILENCE...
EVERY-ONE!
WE ARE THE LOVERS OF CATS!!

OR RATHER, WE LOVE CAT-EARS AND CAT-TAILS ...
BECAUSE THEY MAKE US GO "MEE~ OOOW"!!
WE LOVE THE SENSITIVITY AND PER-SONALITIES OF CATS!
BUT THAT ALONE DOES NOT SATISFY US! WE MUST LOVE!!
L
O
V
E
AND LOVE SOME MORE!
STOMP
ん!
TOSS
BUT EVEN SO...

WHY MUST WE BE LIMITED TO SATISFY OUR NEEDS WITH THE FAKE EARS?!
WHY?!
WHY MUST WE BE THE DESCEN-DENTS OF MONKEYS?!
SHAKE
SHAKE
THIS IS SURELY A CURSE!
HOWEVER, OUR SAVIOR HAS FINALLY ARRIVED!
I'M SURE YOU'VE ALL SEEN IT.
THAT GODLIKE POISE!
5
4
3
2
1

OF THE WOMAN WITH THE REAL CAT-EARS AND CAT-TAIL!!

THIS MUST BE FATE!
おお…
OH MY...
WOW...
THE MERCIFUL GOD HAS SHOWN US THE WAY!
WHAT MAG-NIFI-CENCE!
SHUDDER
STANDS THE CAT-EARED GIRL!
OOOOH
BEFORE OUR OWN EYES...

I HEREBY DECLARE ...
THIS GIRL AS THE GODDESS OF OUR SECRET CAT-EAR SOCIETY,
THE "UNDER-SIDE OF KITTEN PAW"!
YESSSオオオ
WE MUST RETRIEVE OUR GODDESS!
USING ANY MEANS POSSIBLE, ILLEGAL INCLUDED!
STOMP
STOMP
STOMP

OPERATION: MEOW-KUN! LET'S GET THIS STARTED!!
MEE-OOOWW!!

SUPER EXCITED
わくわく
とDASH
GATHER UP, EVERYONE!
THIS IS DONE ...
AND HOW ARE YOU DOING WITH THAT, GRANDMA?
わくわく EXCITED
YES, YES, YOUNG KIO. I'M READY.
YA-HOO!
ひゃほー
ALRIGHT. TODAY I AM GOING TO TEACH YOU HOW TO MAKE "YAKINIKU."

INGREDIENTS:

- PORK-NECK

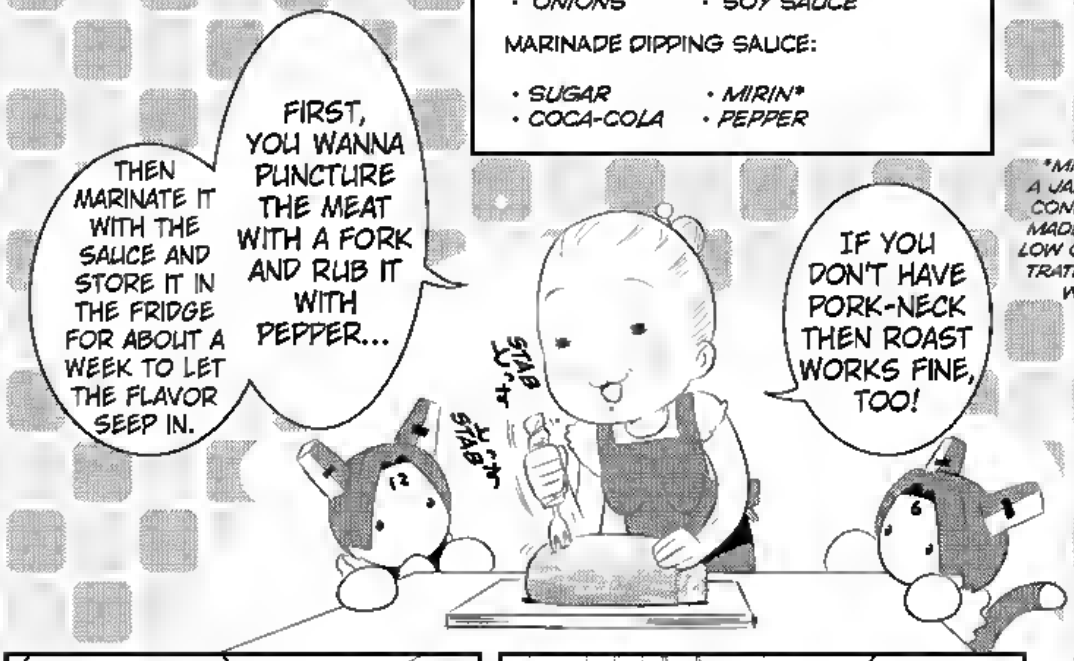
PREPARE IN MODERATE AMOUNTS:

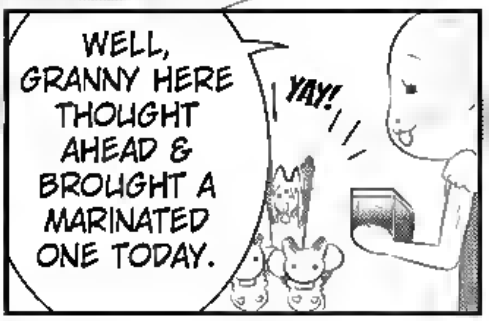
- AWAMORI
- APPLE
- ONIONS
- SOY SAUCE

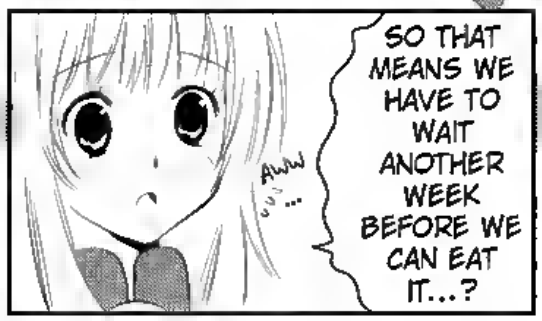
MARINADE DIPPING SAUCE:

- SUGAR
- MIRIN*
- COCA-COLA
- PEPPER

*MIRIN IS A JAPANESE CONDIMENT MADE FROM LOW CONCENTRATED RICE WINE.


FIRST, YOU WANNA PUNCTURE THE MEAT WITH A FORK AND RUB IT WITH PEPPER...
THEN MARINATE IT WITH THE SAUCE AND STORE IT IN THE FRIDGE FOR ABOUT A WEEK TO LET THE FLAVOR SEEP IN.
STAB
STAB
IF YOU DON'T HAVE PORK-NECK THEN ROAST WORKS FINE, TOO!



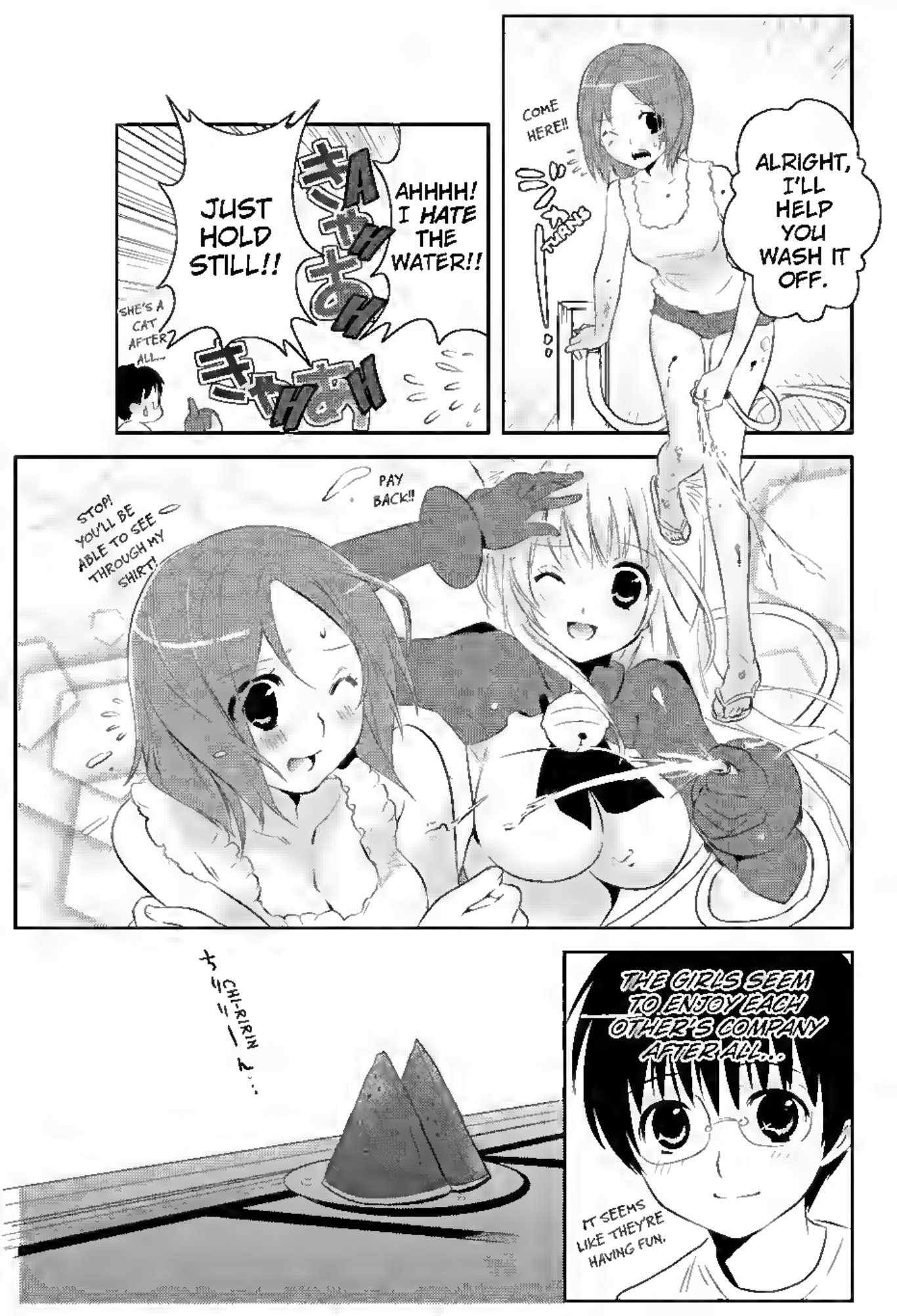


NOW, TURN OFF THE STOVE. ADD THE SUGAR, MIRIN, AWAMORI, AND COCA-COLA INTO THE MARINATED SAUCE UNTIL IT'S MIXED WELL...
THEN COOK EVERYTHING FOR ABOUT TWO HOURS OVER A LOW FIRE.
WHAT'S GOING ON?

NEXT, YOU PUT THE MEAT INTO A SIZZLING WOK AND GRILL IT 'TIL IT'S CRISPY ...
SIZZLE
DON'T GET TOO CLOSE, THE OIL MIGHT SPLASH ON YOU.
AND A TINY BIT BURNT.

Yes!
GOT IT, LITTLE GUYS?
AFTER THAT YOU JUST PUT IT INTO A PLASTIC CONTAINER, AND STORE IN THE FRIDGE FOR A FEW HOURS TO COOL.
BE CAREFUL!
SINCE I HAVE THE MARINATED MEAT READY, WHY DON'T YOU GUYS TRY TO COOK IT.
I USUALLY JUST LEAVE THE COOKING TO THE ASSIST-A-ROIDS...
I SUCK AT MAKING THESE KIIND OF DIFFICULT CUISINES...
M-ME?!
ALRIGHT, YOU TWO HELP, TOO!
I WAS JUST HERE TO SEE WHAT'S GOING ON...
AND ME TOO?!

むぅ
HMMM...
HOLD ON, LET ME TURN IT UP...
STOVE CONTROL
BEEP BEEP
IT'S OKAY, YOU DON'T HAVE TO GO THAT HIGH...
ALRIGHT, FIRST, WE NEED THE WOK...
I THINK YOU TURN THE STOVE THIS WAY...?
HUH?
ERIS! YOUR TAIL'S IN THE SAUCE!
ぴとっ
DUNK
WAHHH! AH! AHHH!
WAG
WAG
P-PLEASE STOP MOVING!!
YOU'RE GETTING IT EVERYWHERE!
Take Care
Cook the meat already-


ALRIGHT, I'LL HELP YOU WASH IT OFF.
COME HERE!!
TWANG
AHHHH! I HATE THE WATER!!
JUST HOLD STILL!!
キャあ
キャあ
SHE'S A CAT AFTER ALL...
PAY BACK!!
STOP! YOU'LL BE ABLE TO SEE THROUGH MY SHIRT!
チリーン
CHI-RIRIN
THE GIRLS SEEM TO ENJOY EACH OTHER'S COMPANY AFTER ALL...
IT SEEMS LIKE THEY'RE HAVING FUN.

I CAN LEND YOU ONE OR JUST GO CHANGE NEXT DOOR...
PLEASE WEAR A SHIRT OR SOMETHING.
YUM!
THIS IS SOOOO GOOD!
HAVING ACTUAL EXPERIENCES AS OPPOSED TO LEARNING FROM THE SIMULATOR CAN REALLY CLOSE THE CULTURAL AND TECHNOLOGICAL GAP.
THAT'S GREAT TO HEAR ...
I THINK HE'S SLOWLY GETTING USED TO LIVING HERE NOW.
SO HOW IS YUN-FAT DOING, MANAMI?
?
AW SEED.
IT'S SO CUTE WHEN HE FOLLOWS HER AROUND.
ACTUALLY, I THINK YUN-FAT IS A LOT MORE ATTACHED TO MY MOM.
MAYBE I SHOULD GO VISIT HER LATER
I WONDER IF IT'LL TURN OUT OKAY ...
COME TO THINK OF IT, ISN'T FUTABA GETTING HER ASSIST-A-ROIDS TODAY...?

M-MANAMI, PLEASE CALM DOWN...
HOW AM I SCARY?!
CRACK
カチ
YOU PROBABLY SCARE HIM, MANAMI-CHAN...
はう
SLIP
ズ
PUNCH
ぽすぽす
PUNCH
あだだだだ
PUNCH
PUNCH
BLUSH
NOOO
I-I-I DIDN'T SEE ANY-THING!!
I ALMOST DID, BUT I DIDN'T!

I REMEMBER SITTING ON MY FATHER'S LAP ONE DAY, WATCHING BLACK AND WHITE TELEVISION.

IT WAS AN OLD MOVIE MADE LONG BEFORE MY FATHER WAS BORN.

IT WAS A FAVORITE OF HIS, A HISTORICAL COMEDY.

WHEN FATHER LAUGHED, I LAUGHED WITH HIM.

AND THAT WAS THE ONLY MEMORY I HAD OF... FATHER.

SINCE BEFORE I CAN REMEMBER, FATHER'S BEEN GONE.

WHEN I ASKED MOTHER WHAT HAD HAPPENED,

SHE REPLIED WITH THAT USUAL DISGUSTED EXPRESSION WHICH MADE ME FEARFUL.

"THAT MAN ABANDONED US."

ぱ SLAP ん
MOTHER, PLEASE!
I DON'T WANT TO LEAVE THIS HOUSE!!
YOU ARE TO DEVOTE YOURSELF TO THE WORLD AND ITS PEOPLE.
THAT IS THE PURPOSE OF YOUR POWER.
UNLIKE THE WEAKLING THAT I AM, YOU MUST BECOME A POWERFUL WOMAN WHO'S CAPABLE OF EVERYTHING.
I DON'T KNOW WHAT THE WORDS MEAN, BUT I HEARD IT OFTEN, SO I MEMORIZED ITS SOUND.
THAT VOICE IS THE ONLY THING THAT I REMEMBER CLEARLY.
AND YOU MUST NOT RETURN HOME AGAIN.
YOU HAVE TO GO,

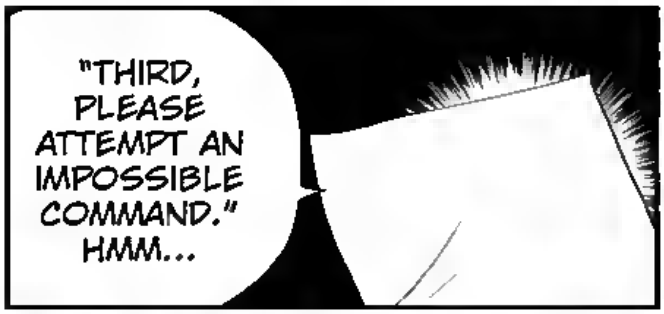
ばたん
SLAM
I CRIED EVERY NIGHT AT THE TRAINING FACILITIES.
IT WASN'T BECAUSE THE REGIME WAS TOO DIFFICULT TO BEAR...
RATHER, I GRIEVED OVER THE FACT THAT I WAS "ABANDONED".
SLEEP BECAME A SCARY THING, BECAUSE ALL I WOULD DREAM OVER AND OVER AGAIN...
WAS ABOUT THAT MOMENT IN TIME.
SO I'D CRY EVERY NIGHT, UNTIL I WAS SO EXHAUSTED THAT...
I'D FALL ASLEEP WITHOUT DREAMING A THING.
AND THEN ONE DAY,
MY TEARS RAN DRY.

I'VE DECIDED TO ABANDON THEM AS WELL.
BECAUSE I WAS ABANDONED BY FAMILY...

WHAT A TERRIBLE DREAM...
ピンポーン
DING DONG
TA
ビー
DA
CAUTION: FRAGILE

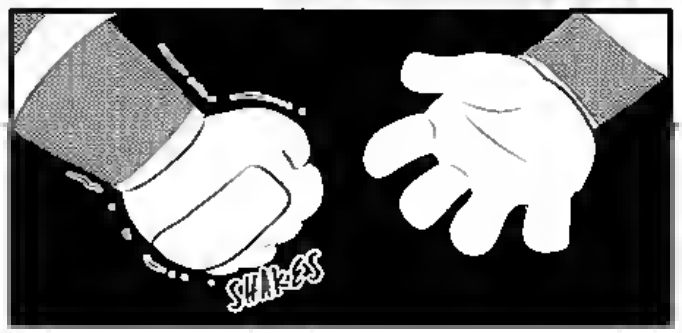
LICK
"FIRST, SLIDE OPEN THE COVER OF THE MASTER KEY..."
"GENTLY LICK THE MEMORY PIN INSIDE."
きゅいーん
HOOMMM
BEEP
"SECOND, INITIATE A TEST RUN..."
OKAY ...
STAND UP.
BOINK
BOINK
ぴよ

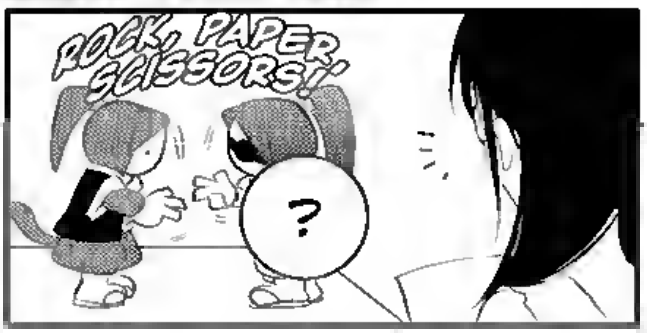
SPIN, SPIN, SPIN—POP
BOINK
SKIP HORIZONTALLY BACK AND FORTH 3 TIMES, AND DO THE WAVE.


"THIRD, PLEASE ATTEMPT AN IMPOSSIBLE COMMAND." HMM...

HEH

YEAAAAAAAH
BIRIMBAU
PLEASE SING AND DANCE THE "MATSU KEN CAPOEIRA."


SHAKES


ROCK, PAPER, SCISSORS!
?

TAP
TAP
FLASH
DUN, DUN, DUN, DUNNN
OH, HE'S GONNA COMMIT SEPPUKU*...
I GUESS THE COMMAND WAS IMPOSSIBLE...
*A SUICIDAL ACT COMMITTED BY SAMURAIS AS A GESTURE OF PROTECTING THEIR HONOR.
"IN ORDER FOR PROPER READJUSTMENT, PLEASE CANCEL THE COMMAND WITHIN 10 SECONDS..."
PLEASE STOP.
MAYBE, I SHOULDN'T HAVE TOLD THEM...
TO GIVE ME AN ESPECIALLY FINE-TUNED ASSIST-A-ROID.

IN ANY CASE, I LOOK FORWARD TO WORKING WITH YOU TWO...
WELL, IN THE FUTURE, I'LL TRY TO REFRAIN FROM MAKING UNREASONABLE REQUESTS ...
Bow
ペコ

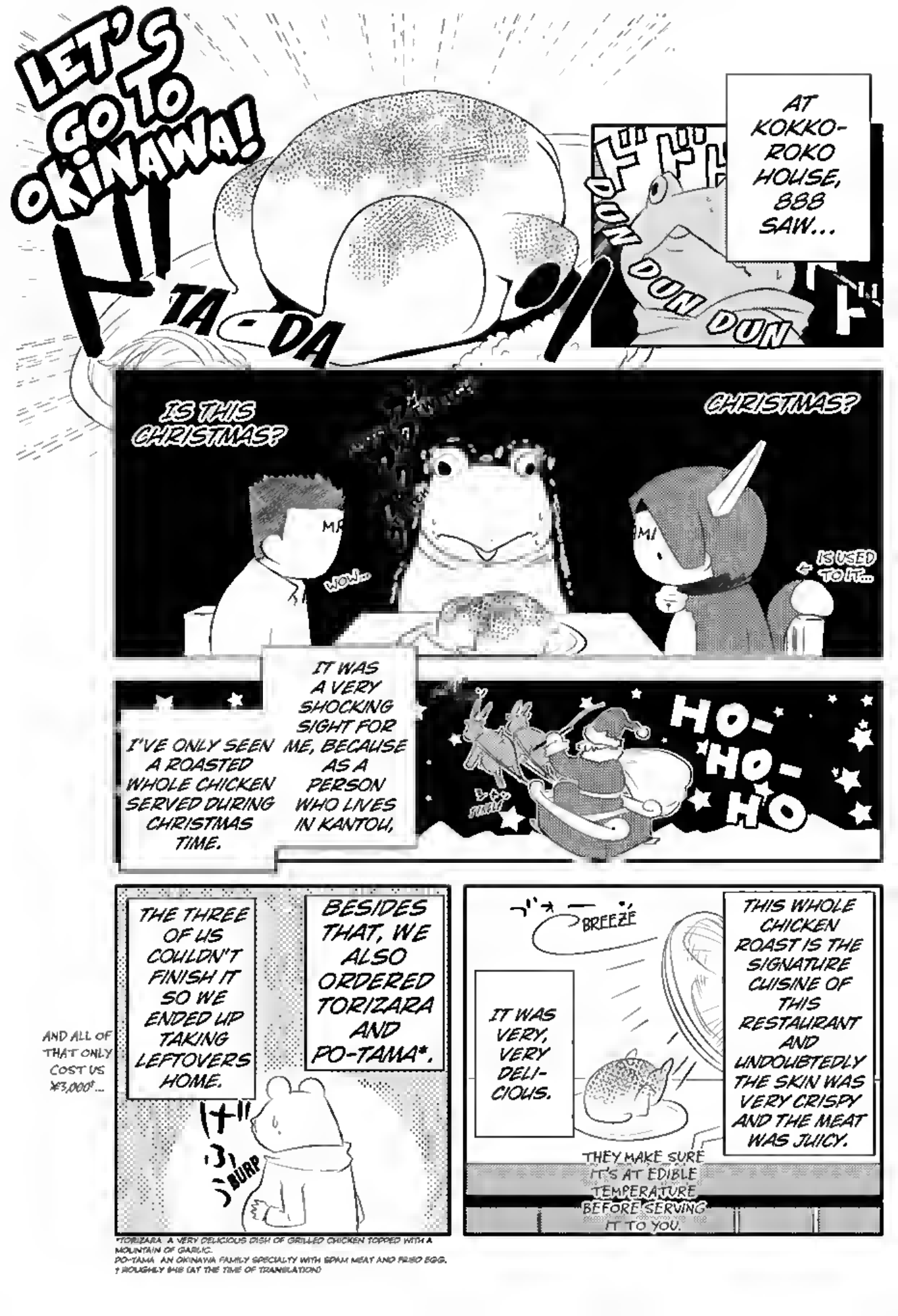
TEAR
STUPID JAPANESE GOVERNMENT!
WHAT THE HECK!
TOP SECRET
TEAR
TEAR

MISS ANTONIA ...
THAT'S WHY YOU SHOULD HAVE ABANDONED ALL YOUR STOCKS IN THE NEWS PUBLISHING COMPANIES.
WHY IS NO ONE BROADCASTING THE SHIT OUT OF THIS VALUABLE PIECE OF INFORMATION?! TO HELL WITH THE NEWS REGULATION CRAP!!
AND WHAT'S UP WITH THE MASS MEDIA?!
だん STOMP
だん STOMP

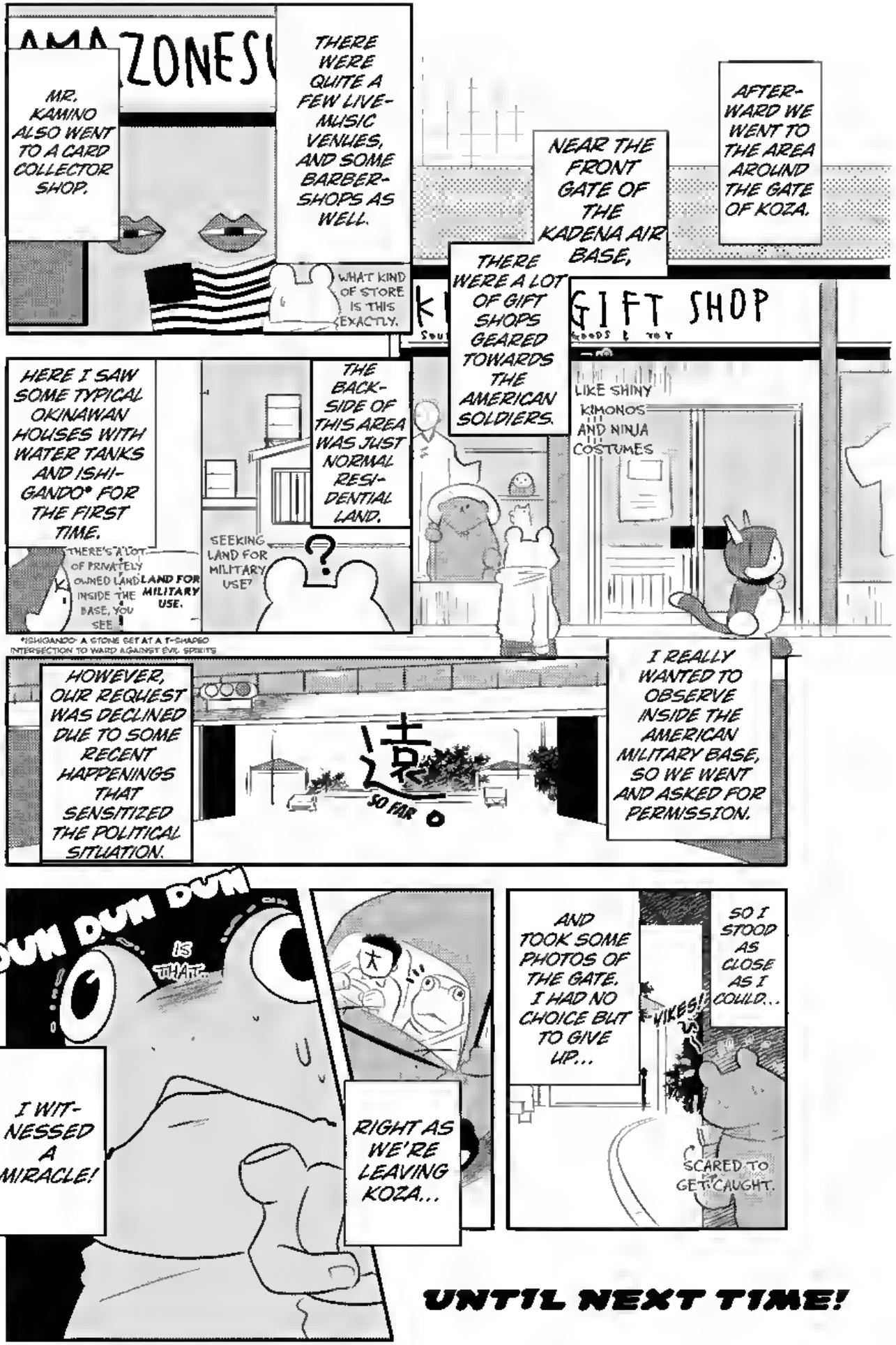
THE CAT PEOPLE ARE GOING TO GREAT LENGTHS TO ESTABLISH A DIPLOMATIC RELATIONSHIP WITH US!
WHAT'S WITH THE GOVERNMENT'S COLD ATTITUDE?!

I'VE ALREADY WARNED YOU ABOUT THIS SEVERAL TIMES, BUT YOU INSIST...
くどくどくど
DRONES ON AND ON
YOU KNOW, IT'S ONLY NATURAL THAT SUCH THINGS HAPPEN. IN JAPAN, THE CHOICE TO PUBLISH A MATERIAL IS NOT UP TO THE EDITOR, BUT RATHER THE POWER LIES IN THE HANDS OF THE COMPANY HEAD.
OOPS!
AHHH! MISS ANTONIA, PLEASE SPARE ME SOME MERCY!
BAM
ARE YOU TRYING TO CORRECT YOUR MASTER?! HUH?!
BAM
BAM
AH!
OH MY!
MISS ANTONIA!
OH! AH!
STRIKE!

RIGHT! I'VE MADE MY DECISION!!
BUT THINK ABOUT IT THE OTHER WAY, THIS MIGHT BE A CHANCE.
Y-YES ...
LISTEN, MAYA!!
WRITE DOWN EVERYTHING I SAY AND SEND IT TO THE TARGETED RECIPIENTS!
I'M COUNTING ON YOU TO GATHER ALL THE NECESSARY INFOR-MATION.
FIRST, I WILL NEED TO GATHER THE TECH-NICIANS!
I WILL DEFINITELY SEEK OUT AND BRING THE GLORY OF THE GODDESS TO US!!
TO BE CONTINUED.


LET'S GO TO OKINAWA!!
TA-DA
AT KOKKO-ROKO HOUSE, 888 SAW...
DUN DUN DUN
IS THIS CHRISTMAS?
CHRISTMAS?
WOW...
IS USED TO IT...
I'VE ONLY SEEN A ROASTED WHOLE CHICKEN SERVED DURING CHRISTMAS TIME.
IT WAS A VERY SHOCKING SIGHT FOR ME, BECAUSE AS A PERSON WHO LIVES IN KANTOU,
HO-HO-HO
AND ALL OF THAT ONLY COST US ¥3,000†...
THE THREE OF US COULDN'T FINISH IT SO WE ENDED UP TAKING LEFTOVERS HOME.
BESIDES THAT, WE ALSO ORDERED TORIZARA AND PO-TAMA*.
BURP
BREEZE
IT WAS VERY, VERY DELI-CIOUS.
THIS WHOLE CHICKEN ROAST IS THE SIGNATURE CUISINE OF THIS RESTAURANT AND UNDOUBTEDLY THE SKIN WAS VERY CRISPY AND THE MEAT WAS JUICY.
THEY MAKE SURE IT'S AT EDIBLE TEMPERATURE BEFORE SERVING IT TO YOU.

*TORIZARA: A VERY DELICIOUS DISH OF GRILLED CHICKEN TOPPED WITH A MOUNTAIN OF GARLIC.
PO-TAMA: AN OKINAWA FAMILY SPECIALTY WITH SPAM MEAT AND FRIED EGG.
† ROUGHLY $48 (AT THE TIME OF TRANSLATION)


MR. KAMINO ALSO WENT TO A CARD COLLECTOR SHOP.
THERE WERE QUITE A FEW LIVE-MUSIC VENUES, AND SOME BARBER-SHOPS AS WELL.
WHAT KIND OF STORE IS THIS EXACTLY.
AFTER-WARD WE WENT TO THE AREA AROUND THE GATE OF KOZA.
NEAR THE FRONT GATE OF THE KADENA AIR BASE,
THERE WERE A LOT OF GIFT SHOPS GEARED TOWARDS THE AMERICAN SOLDIERS.
GIFT SHOP
LIKE SHINY KIMONOS AND NINJA COSTUMES
HERE I SAW SOME TYPICAL OKINAWAN HOUSES WITH WATER TANKS AND ISHI-GANDO* FOR THE FIRST TIME.
THE BACK-SIDE OF THIS AREA WAS JUST NORMAL RESI-DENTIAL LAND.
SEEKING LAND FOR MILITARY USE?
THERE'S A LOT OF PRIVATELY OWNED LAND INSIDE THE BASE, YOU SEE.
LAND FOR MILITARY USE.
*ISHIGANDO: A STONE SET AT A T-SHAPED INTERSECTION TO WARD AGAINST EVIL SPIRITS
HOWEVER, OUR REQUEST WAS DECLINED DUE TO SOME RECENT HAPPENINGS THAT SENSITIZED THE POLITICAL SITUATION.
SO FAR
I REALLY WANTED TO OBSERVE INSIDE THE AMERICAN MILITARY BASE, SO WE WENT AND ASKED FOR PERMISSION.
DUN DUN DUN
IS THAT...
I WIT-NESSED A MIRACLE!
RIGHT AS WE'RE LEAVING KOZA...
AND TOOK SOME PHOTOS OF THE GATE. I HAD NO CHOICE BUT TO GIVE UP...
YIKES!
SO I STOOD AS CLOSE AS I COULD...
SCARED TO GET CAUGHT.
UNTIL NEXT TIME!

Hello, the original author here.

We're now at volume two where everything starts to intensify with the climax of the Kadena air base episode and the appearance of the "Underside of Kitten Paw."

In this industry there are always lots of works that experience great difficulties in the process of being reincorporated into comics. However, thanks to Mr. 888 and his boundless talent, I am fortunate enough to enjoy the adaptation every month.

Not only that, Mr. 888 would pick up and include bits and pieces from the novel to put into the manga version, as well. More than ever, I'm sure that those who read the novel version will surely enjoy this adaptation.

Anyway, please look forward to all the episodes of adventure of our usual crew!

Brought to you from my house, during midsummer Okinawa

Okina Kamino

P.S. The 4th CD drama has been released.
For a greater experience, listen to it while you read the manga.
It will make you feel as if you are there!

Let's Go Play! 2

Digital Manga Guild presents

author. Okino Komino
illustrator. 888
character design Houdeneizou

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